

LIMAVADY BOROUGH COUNCIL
COMHAIRLE BHUIRG LÉIM AN MHADAIDH

25 MAY 2005

Minutes of monthly meeting held in the Council Offices, 7 Connell Street, Limavady, which commenced at 7.30 pm on the above date.

PRESENT:

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

In Attendance: Committee Clerk, Chief Finance & Administration Officer, Chief Recreation & Tourism Officer, Chief Environmental Health Officer, Chief Technical Service Officer and the Town Clerk & Chief Executive.

APOLOGIES:

None.

MINUTES:

The minutes of monthly meeting dated 23 March 2005 were approved and signed on the proposal of Councillor Carten, seconded by Councillor Brolly.

MATTERS ARISING:

Clooney Road, Greysteel: The Town Clerk tabled letter dated 20 April 2005 from Road Service, which advised that the traffic calming scheme at Clooney Road was nearing completion and that to avoid severe congestion, the contractor was prohibited from working on the carriageway after 4.15 pm.

Roads Service indicated that consideration had been given to the provision of a left turn lane at Gortgare Road but unfortunately, this would not be justified in relation to the expense by the level of traffic involved.

Members welcomed the new toucan crossing which would provide an additional traffic calming feature.

Traffic Signals, Ballykelly: The Town Clerk explained that Roads Service had indicated that the signals at Ballykelly Village gave priority to the flow of traffic on the main through route and that this was a balanced with the needs of traffic on the side roads and pedestrians.

Members noted that the green time at the signals on the through route had been increased and that this, together with previous alternations made to the phasing of the lights had gone some way towards reducing the lengthy queues.

LICENCES:

None

WESTERN HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES BOARD:

Minutes: Minutes of meeting held 27 January 2005 were tabled and noted.

WESTERN HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES COUNCIL:

Minutes: Minutes of meeting held 2 February 2005 were tabled and noted.

ALTNAGELVIN HOSPITALS HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES TRUST:

Minutes: Minutes of meeting held 3 March and 7 April 2005 were tabled and noted.

WESTERN GROUP ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH COMMITTEE:

Report: Report of meeting held 24 March 2005 was tabled and noted

FOYLE HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES TRUST:

Minutes: Minutes of meeting held 25 March and 29 April 2005 was tabled and noted.

RESOLUTIONS:

The following resolution from Derry City Council was marked as read.

“That this Council notes that Foyle Connect provides a vital transport service for many people in the rural Derry area, particularly those living in isolated rural communities.

This Council agrees that arrangements by DRD to charge Foyle Connect six pence for every extra mile over 20,000 miles that they travel per annum is effectively a perverse and punitive prohibitive tariff penalising Foyle Connect for the success of this service.

This Council resolves to write to the Minister for Regional Development urging a review of funding arrangements for Foyle Connect so that they can concentrate on providing this service rather than worrying about having to pay further costs incurred by its success.”

COURSES/CONFERENCES:

Arts Council of Northern Ireland Conference 2005: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Carten, seconded by Councillor Brolly that Alderman Mullan would attend the above conference to be held on 1 June 2005 in the Millennium Forum Theatre, Derry City at a cost of £90 plus VAT.

The British Wind Energy Association Planning Conference: It was agreed that Alderman Rankin, Councillors M Carten, L Cubitt and E Stevenson would attend the above conference to be held 1 June 2005 in Radisson Roe Park Hotel.

CIPFA – Improving Governance in Public Services: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Brolly, seconded by Councillor Donaghey that Councillor Butcher attend the above conference to be held 3 June 2005 in Hilton Hotel, Templepatrick at a cost of £295 plus VAT.

BMF – The Future of Public Administration in Northern Ireland: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Cubitt, seconded by Councillor Robinson

that Alderman Robinson attend the above conference to be held on 6 June 2005 in Stormont Hotel, Belfast at a cost of £255 plus VAT.

SEAL LEGAL DOCUMENTS:

None

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

Naming of Housing Development - Gortnaghey Road, Dungiven: The Town Clerk reported that Council had received a request from Mr Liam McCartney for the new housing development at Gortnaghey Road to be named Owenreagh Close. Agreed.

Roe Valley Country Park: Councillor Cubitt highlighted that visitors to Roe Valley Country Park were annoyed that there were no catering facilities for refreshments. He also queried why the island had been removed from the duck pond. The Chief Recreation/Tourism Officer agreed to contact the EHS regarding the issues raised and said further information would be provided at the Development Committee meeting.

Toilets at Ballykelly: In response to a request from Councillor Cubitt for the provision of toilets in Ballykelly, the Chief Technical Service Officer said that he would check the previous decision of Council and respond at a subsequent meeting.

Blathanna – Colmcille Summer School: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Brolly, seconded by Councillor Butcher that £600 be contributed towards this event, on the proviso that the Chief Recreation & Tourism Officer receive written confirmation on details of the programme for 2005 and that the criteria for grant aid be fulfilled.

Navan Bus Tragedy: Councillor Carten referred to the recent road traffic accident in which 5 teenagers tragically died when the bus they were travelling in overturned near Navan, Co. Meath. Members offering sympathy to the family of the deceased and it was agreed that the Town Clerk write to the Minister of Education requesting increased safety measures on school buses in Northern Ireland and, in particular, the provision of safety belts and the introduction of legislation to made the wearing of safety belts compulsory.

Refreshments at Roe Valley Leisure Centre: The Chief Recreation & Tourism Officer explained to Alderman Mullan that it would be difficult and costly to provide café facilities for the provision of refreshments at Roe Valley Leisure Centre and that once the refurbishing work had been completed, vending machines would be put back in place.

D'hondt - Powersharing: Councillor Cubitt referred to correspondence received from the Town Clerk on those seats left available at the AGM for unionist members and read from a prepared statement which, inter alia, expressed reservations with the use of the D'hondt system, which he felt had denied their democratic right to represent their electorate. This was supported by Councillor Douglas. The Mayor and Councillor Anne Brolly refuted the claim that the D'hondt system was undemocratic and pointed out that this system was used both by the former Northern Ireland Assembly and by other Councils.

FORMAL CORRESPONDENCE:

- DSD – Positive Steps: The Government’s Response to Investing Together: Report of the Task Force on Resourcing the Voluntary and Community Sector
- A Guide for Everybody – The Disability Discrimination Act 1995
- Transforming Conflict: Flags and Emblems – Institute of Irish Studies, Queens University Belfast
- Annual report of the Committee on Standards in Public Life 2004
- Regional Health & Safety Authority – Corporate Plan 2005 – 2008
- Regional Health & Safety Authority – Operating Plan 2005 – 2008
- Northern Ireland Policing Board – Corporate Plan 2005 – 2008
- Equality Commission – Guidance on providing British Sign Language/English and Irish Sign Language/English interpreters under the Disability Discrimination Act 1995.

NEXT MEETING:

22 June 2005

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS
(The meeting ended at 9.05 pm)