

**LIMAVADY BOROUGH COUNCIL
COMHAIRLE BHUIRG LÉIM AN MHADAIDH**

MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING

27 FEBRUARY 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, G Robinson and J Rankin. Councillors A Brolly, P Butcher, M Carten, B Chivers, L Cubitt (chair), M Coyle, M Donaghy, B Douglas, C Ó hOisín, A Robinson and E Stevenson.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Committee Clerk, Corporate Policy Officer and the Chief Executive.

APOLOGIES:

Councillor J F McElhinney.

CHAIR OF MEETING:

In the absence of the Mayor, it was agreed that Councillor Cubitt, Deputy Mayor would chair the meeting.

MINUTES:

The minutes of meeting held 23 January 2007 were approved and signed on the proposal of Councillor Butcher, seconded by Councillor Ó hOisín.

MATTERS ARISING: None.

CHIEF EXECUTIVES REPORT – FEBRUARY 2007:

Disability Action Plan: The Corporate Policy Officer gave a short explanatory presentation regarding the proposed Disability Action Plan which was approved by Council.

Integrated Business Plan Objectives 2007/08: The Chief Executive presented the draft Integrated Business Plan and explained that this brought together the key business plan objectives from all Directorates drawing on the more detailed Service Plans at operational level.

The Integrated Business Plan was approved and will be presented to the Audit Committee.

Risk Management Policy: The revised Risk Management Policy and Procedures to enable compliance with the audit requirement for an Annual Statement of Internal Control were approved.

Councillors' Allowances Update: Members noted that the DOE had clarified that allowances should only be used to reward members nominated by Council to take on additional duties such as Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Chairs of Councils committees.

Right of Way – Lands at 145 Main Street, Dungiven: IN COMMITTEE. The Chief Executive outlined via a powerpoint presentation details of site location and impact of change in Right of Way on lands at 145 Main Street, Dungiven.

Following debate Council agreed in principle to accept the request for change in the Right of Way subject to agreement regarding tree preservation, potential recompense for agreement to change, realignment of car park boundary and improvements to the Bawn Wall. The Chief Executive undertook to bring agreement details back to Council for final approval. **OUT OF COMMITTEE.**

Multi Purpose Civic Centre: Council approved the Tender Return Report from Consarc which detailed contractors who responded to the advertisements for tenders for the main contract works, the mechanical and electrical sub contract work and specialist sub contract work for new Multi Purpose Civic Centre.

Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme 2007-13: Members were informed of proposals from DARD for the delivery of Axis 3 of the new Rural Development Programme from 2007 to 2013. It was noted that the proposed mechanism had been designed to meet with European requirements to allow a Leader methodology but also represent a model to shift overall responsibility clearly to local government in a way that could be carried over into post RPA period.

NILGA Consultation: It was agreed that a members workshop would be held on Thursday 15 March 2007 to consider the issues contained in the IdeA Report and NILGA documents/questionnaire so that a response might be formulated for the Monthly Council meeting on 27 March 2007.

SMOKE FREE POLICY:

Members approved the Smoke Free Policy aimed to protect all employees, customers and visitors from exposure to second hand smoke and to comply with the Smoking (NI) Order 2006 and Regulations which would be enforced by Councils from 30th April 2007.

EXTERNAL MINUTES NOTED:

- Altnagelvin Hospitals Health & Social Services Trust – 7 December 2006
- Foyle Health & Social Services Trust – 26 January 2007
- Western Group Environmental Health Committee – 12 December 2006
- Western Health & Social Services Board – 23 November 2006.

NOTICE OF MOTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR BUTCHER:

Councillor Butcher proposed, seconded by Councillor Chivers:

‘That this Council expresses deep concern at the revelations contained in the report published by the Police Ombudsman Nuala O’Loan into the murder of Raymond McCord for highlighting collusion between Special Branch and Loyalist paramilitaries and further calls on the British government to acknowledge its’ role in employing this policy during its ‘Dirty War’ in Ireland.’

Councillor Stevenson proposed the following amendment which was read out by the Chair and seconded by Councillor Douglas:

‘That we express deep concern at the revelations contained in the Police Ombudsman’s Report into the murder of Raymond McCord Jnr, alleging collusion between loyalist paramilitaries and Special Branch but failing to name those officers involved; and called on the same Ombudsman to investigate the collusion between Martin McGuinness and Michael Oakley of M15 and their involvement in the ethnic cleansing of Protestants; and murder of policemen in border regions; and Mr McGuinness’s involvement in the wiping out of 12 republican informers; and his involvement in the Claudy bombing and the setting up for killing of those republicans involved in the Loughgall ambush.’

A discussion took place regarding the amendment and the Chair was asked if it had been appropriate to allow the original motion onto the agenda. The Chair stated that he had asked this of the Chief Executive and had been told that the motion had been reviewed along with the Mayor when submitted and allowed onto the agenda. The Chief Executive confirmed this and that the motion had been considered to meet the requirements of Standing Orders.

After further discussion, the Chair stated that he was ruling the original motion out of order and moving on to the next item on the agenda. A heated exchange took place amongst several members and the Chair declared he was adjourning the meeting and left the Chamber at 8.14 pm.

Councillors Douglas, Rankin and Stevenson also left the Chamber at this stage.

The remaining members asked the Chief Executive to confirm if the Chair had the right to adjourn the meeting in this manner. The Chief Executive consulted Standing Orders and referred to paragraph 17(b) that “the Council do now adjourn should be moved, seconded and voted on and a date set for the adjourned meeting to resume.” Members considered the meeting had not been adjourned properly and in line with paragraph 10c therefore a nomination for Chair for the rest of the meeting was sought. Councillor Ó hOisín was proposed by Councillor Butcher, seconded by Councillor Chivers and took the Chair.

Alderman and Councillor Robinson left the meeting at 8.30 pm.

Given the course of events at the meeting, Councillor Butcher withdrew the motion for discussion at the next meeting.

CONSULTATIONS:

It was agreed that the Corporate Policy Officer would respond on Councils behalf to the Department of Trade and Industry consultation document entitled 'The Post Office Network' by the 8 March 2007 deadline.

COURSES/CONFERENCES:

It was agreed that the Chief Executive would attend the Housing Conference of the Isles Affordability to be held 8 & 9 March 2007 in Armagh City Hotel at a cost of £275+VAT.

SEAL LEGAL DOCUMENTS: - None.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS: - None.

FORMAL CORRESPONDENCE:

- Arts Council of Northern Ireland 2007 – 10 year Corporate Plan
- Review of the Electoral Commission – Eleventh Report
- Accessible Transport Strategy for Northern Ireland 2015
- Action Plan for the Prevention, Management and Control of Hepatitis C in Northern Ireland
- Our Children and Young People – Our Shared Responsibility – Overview Report December 2006
- Hate Crime in Northern Ireland – A thematic inspection of the management of hate crime by the criminal justice system in Northern Ireland – January 2007
- Department of Agriculture & Rural Development – Renewable Energy Action Plan
- Lifetime Opportunities – Governments Anti-Poverty and Social Inclusion Strategy for Northern Ireland
- Advisory Council on Infrastructure Investment – Review of Year 2 2005/06
- Strategic Resources Framework – HPSS Expenditure Plans for Northern Ireland by Programme of Care, Key Service and Locality, incorporating Selected Planned Activity and Outcome Measures – 2006/07.

NEXT MEETING:

27 March 2007

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS

(The meeting ended at 8.40 pm

Chair: _____