

LIMAVADY BOROUGH COUNCIL
COMHAIRLE BHUIRG LÉIM AN MHADAIDH
MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING

28 OCTOBER 2008

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

PRESENT:

In the Chair: Alderman Robinson

Aldermen J. Rankin and G Mullan. Councillors A Brolly, P. Butcher, M Carten, M. Coyle, L Cubitt, M Donaghy, B Douglas, Councillor Ó hOisín, J. F. McElhinney and E Stevenson.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Committee Clerk and the Chief Executive.

APOLOGIES:

Councillors B Chivers and A Robinson.

CONDOLENCE:

It was agreed that a letter of condolence would be forwarded to the Mayor Councillor Chivers on the death of her sister in law Denise Chivers.

VENTUREI – DRAFT CORPORATE PLAN CONSULTATION PAPER:

The chair welcomed Mr John O'Neill, Venturei to the meeting.

Mr O'Neill outlined that Limavady Borough Council had engaged with internal and external stakeholders to develop its Corporate Plan for 2009-2011. He said participants at the stakeholders' day held on 9 September 2008 had identified issues, whereby Council could take a lead role or work in partnership with statutory agencies, the community, voluntary or private sector in order to achieve better outcomes for the Borough. He added that following consultation, it was proposed that the Vision Statement for Limavady Borough Council area would be that 'The Limavady Borough will be a place where people are proud to **Live, Work and Visit**' and that the mission statement would be to 'Provide leadership, deliver quality services and promote the area for everyone.'

Mr O'Neill explained that the consultation had identified the following strategic themes:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Leadership & Governance | 2. Legacy Planning |
| 3. Quality of Life | 4. People and |
| 5. Sustainable Environment. | |

Members noted that three most important areas identified as having the most potential for Council intervention, leadership or involvement via partnership working were:

1. to ensure inclusion/communication for the provision of services
2. preparation for RPA and Councils role in economic development and
3. strengthening joined up working with NIHE, ELB and the community sector.

In number of comments were made regarding the high level list of issues identified for potential partnership working and it was queried if this list was compatible with plans of other Councils within the Causeway group. Mr O'Neill stated that the issues were what Limavady Borough Council should be working towards or aspired to attain over the next two years, however, factors economically and globally, such as budgets and financial availability would have an impact of what could realistically be achieved.

It was agreed that a final version of the Corporate Plan would be presented to Council at the November monthly meeting.

MINUTES:

The minutes of meeting held 23 September 2008 were approved and signed on the proposal of Councillor Coyle, seconded by Councillor Cubitt.

Although agreed at the last meeting, Alderman Robinson and Councillor Ó hOisín indicated that they did not attend the Courses/Conferences specified within the minutes. Noted.

MATTERS ARISING: - None.

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING HELD 29 SEPTEMBER 2008:

The minutes of special meeting held 29 September 2008 were approved and signed on the proposal of Councillor Coyle, seconded by Councillor Carten.

MINUTES OF AUDIT COMMITTEE:

The minutes of Audit Committee meeting held 12 June 2008 were approved on the proposal of Councillor Coyle, second Councillor Brolly.

MINUTES OF ROE VALLEY CHAMBER OF TRADE:

The minutes of Roe Valley Chamber of Trade meeting held 6 October 2008 were approved on the proposal of Councillor Cubitt, seconded by Councillor Carten.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT – OCTOBER 2008:

Town Hall Update: The chair welcomed Sarah Villiers, Consarc Design Group to the meeting.

Ms Villiers updated members regarding the Town Hall project and said that agreement had been reached with Fold Housing Association regarding access; the Town Square had been re-arranged to include disabled parking spaces; planning application had been re-submitted for access to the site from Main Street and costs

had been updated from those given at September 2007, which included further cost savings without compromising the quality of the scheme.

Ms Villiers stated that the current cost estimate of £3.97m included construction costs, enabling works contract costs, fitting, fixtures & equipment costs and fees & surveys. She said the design team were finalising documentation for re-tendering by 17 November 2008, with returns anticipated by 12 December 2008 and that following tender review and with Councils direction to proceed, work could start on site by February 2009, with the project anticipated to be completed by July 2010.

A number of points were raised for and against progressing the project, including thinking about current economic downturn/cost to ratepayer, while at the same time acknowledging that residents had been waiting for new Town Hall for over 10 years. Alderman Mullan proposed, seconded by Councillor Carten that approval be given for the project to progress to tender stage. Agreed.

RPA Update: The Chief Executive highlighted that the RPA update within his report had been overshadowed by Minister Sammy Wilson announcement earlier in the day. He said guidance had now been issued on the establishment of Transition Committees & Transition Management Teams which was to be made up of elected members from the constituent councils which form the new authorities. He added that the Transition Management Teams would be tasked with the operational delivery of the restructure programme at a local level working under the direction of their Transition Committees.

Members noted that the terms of reference and initial guidance to inform the creation and establishment of the bodies had been issued and that the Strategic Leadership Board, through the Regional Transition Co-ordinating Group would issue further guidance as the programme progresses. It was also noted that the guidance was intended to assist the formation of such groups at the earliest opportunity and to ensure they were formed in a consistent manner and operate to a common understanding.

The Chief Executive drew member's attention to the fact that membership of the Transition Committees should consist only of elected members from the existing Councils and should proportionately reflect the political composition of the existing Councils (subject to a maximum of 16 Councillors per Transition Committee). He said that the secretariat would be provided by a Change Management Officer and that a £150k had been set aside to assist with the process. He added that although there were question marks over the finer details, it was recommended that Council wait for further guidance and details to emerge from a special briefing session being organised by the DOE. Agreed.

Corporate Risk Register: The Chief Executive presented progress report on Councils' Corporate Risk Register for 2008/09 and gave an overview of current controls/action plans in place to minimise the risks identified. He said that the Risk Register was an essential tool in Council's governance and business planning arrangements. Noted.

Roads Service Autumn Consultation: It was agreed that Roads Service would present their autumn consultation report to Council at the November 2008 Monthly meeting.

EXTERNAL MINUTES - NOTED:

- Western Health & Social Care Trust – 4 September 2008
- Northern Group Building Control Committee – 15 May 2008

CONSULTATIONS:

It was agreed that the Corporate Policy Officer would respond on Council's behalf to the following consultation documents:

- ◆ NSENI – proposals for the Health & Safety Information for Employees (Amendment) Regulations (NI) 2008 – *12 December 2008.*
- ◆ DHSSPS – consultation on an Autism Spectrum Disorder Strategic Action Plan 2008/09 – *12 December 2008.*
- ◆ NI Fire & Rescue Service – Integrated Risk Management Plan 2007/08, review of second pumping appliances at 12 Fire Stations – *23 December 2008.*
- ◆ Loughs Agency – proposed regulations for the opening of a permit fishery at Greenbraes on the River Foyle between County Tyrone and County Donegal – *31 December 2008.*
- ◆ Loughs Agency – proposed amendment to existing regulation on carcass tagging to allow a charge to be levied for carcass tags in the Foyle and Carlingford areas – *31 December 2008. Council felt that the River Roe was already over regulated and was opposed to further stipulations on catchment.*
- ◆ Mr Kieran McCarthy MLA – Private Members Bill on Management Companies in apartment blocks in Northern Ireland – *9 December 2008.*
- ◆ Department of Finance & Personnel – consultation paper on Pleural Plaques – *12 January 2008.*

COURSES/CONFERENCES:

SOLACE Northern Ireland Conference: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Butcher, seconded by Councillor Carten that the Chief Executive would attend the SOLACE Northern Ireland Conference to be held in Lough Erne Golf Resort on 27 November 2008.

SEAL LEGAL DOCUMENTS: - None.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

- ◆ It was suggested that officers try and resolve the problems associated with finding a suitable location for a bus shelter in Aghanloo.
- ◆ In order to expedite development of the former market yard and acquisition of land at Catherine Street, it was suggested that the reports by Ken Crothers and Mark Horner be forwarded to the relevant Government departments. The Chief Executive agreed to bring back a recommendation to Council regarding the suggestion. Several members voiced their opposition at the issue being raised under Any Other Business.
- ◆ Members were advised that the official opening of Greysteel play area would take place on 5 November at 2.30 pm.
- ◆ It was agreed that a copy of NILGA's amended constitution would be forwarded to Councillor Coyle.

- ◆ A member stated that Environmental Health should prosecute those who took the opportunity to burn off agricultural waste when bonfires were held at Halloween. Noted.

FORMAL CORRESPONDENCE:

- ◆ Northern Ireland Fire & Rescue Service Annual Report & Statement of Accounts 2007/08
- ◆ Northern Ireland Water Annual Report
- ◆ Western Health and Social Care Trust Annual Report 2007/08
- ◆ SELB/WELB Youth Service – Business Plan April 08 March 09
- ◆ Roads Service Annual Report and Accounts 2007/08
- ◆ Older People Housing Policy Review Action Plan 2008-10
- ◆ Northern Ireland Local Government Superannuation Committee
- ◆ Equality of Opportunity and Sustainable Development in Public Sector Procurement
- ◆ WEA News – Autumn 2008
- ◆ Rivers Agency – Government Response to the Independent Flood Management Policy Review
- ◆ DPP News – Engaging with the Community
- ◆ Healthy Living Centre Regional Alliance – Healthy Living Centres
- ◆ Voluntary and Community Sector – Community Capacity Building
- ◆ Equality Commission – Principles for Equality of Opportunity and Good Relations in Local Government Reform

NEXT MEETING: - 25 November 2008.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS
(The meeting ended at 9.00 pm)

Signed: _____
Chair of Meeting