

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

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE

31 MAY 2005

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

PRESENT:

Alderman G Mullan and J Rankin, Councillors A Brolly, P Butcher, C Ó hOisín, M Donaghy, B Chivers, L Cubitt, B Douglas J F McElhinney and E Stevenson

IN ATTENDANCE:

Committee Clerk and the Town Clerk.

APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR:

It was agreed on the proposal of Alderman Mullan, seconded by Councillor Brolly that Councillor Carten be elected Chair of the Planning & Development Services Committee for the year 2005/2006.

Councillor Carten took the seat and said he would work for all residents of the Borough.

APOLOGIES:

Alderman G Robinson, Councillors M Coyle and A Robinson.

CONDOLENCES:

Members expressed their sorrow at the death of the Mayor's wife Mary and stood in silence as a mark of respect.

ROAD SERVICE PROGRAMME AND REPORT:

The Chair welcomed Dr Murray, Divisional Roads Manager and Mr Roy Johnston, Section Engineer, to the meeting.

Dr Murray said that over the past few years there had been an increase in finance available for improvement schemes on the road network and that a good programme of schemes was delivered last year, with a similar programme proposed for 2005/06

Dr Murray presented the progress report on the current year's capital and maintenance programme and answered various questions put to him by members. The queries and responses were noted as follows:

1. NETWORK MAINTENANCE:

Resurfacing Completed: Members welcomed the 8.48 km of resurfacing completed in 2004/05, especially on the A2 Ballykelly Road, Ballyspallan and A6 Chapel Road, Dungiven, which had been resurfaced with new stone mastic asphalt.

Benevenagh Drive: Alderman Rankin referred to the continuing drainage problem at Benevenagh Drive and said the gullies were not able to carry away floodwater following heavy rain.

Main Street Dungiven: In response to Councillor Ó hOisín, Mr Johnstone said the proposed resurfacing on Main Street Dungiven would commence shortly and that Station Road would be used as a by-pass for at least 3 to 4 weeks.

Footpath - Dry Arch: Councillor Ó hOisín expressed concern that walkers were at risk from traffic at the Dry Arch junction due to the absence of a footpath.

Traffic Calming – Legavallon Road: Councillor Chivers suggested that signs or traffic calming measures be introduced at Gelvin school.

2. STRATEGIC ROAD IMPROVEMENTS:

Ballyquin Road: Councillor Brolly voiced her disappointment that greater priority had not been given to the proposed minor works for 2006/07 at the dangerous bend on the Ballyquin Road.

Kilhoyle Road: Councillor Chivers said heavy lorries who used Kilhoyle Road were causing damage and making it unsafe. Mr Johnston suggested that drainage and repair work to the verge of the road would help alleviate the problem.

Mullaghmeash Road: Councillor Douglas pointed out that part of Mullaghmeash Road was uneven and in need of repair. Mr Johnstone clarified that the road would be repaired once the new housing development in the area had been completed.

Mullaghmesh Park, Feeny: Councillor Donaghy referred to the problem of cars parking and restricting access to the pathway at Mullaghmesh Park. Mr Johnstone agreed to assess the problem.

Gortcorbies Climbing Lane: In welcoming the proposed climbing lane at Gortcorbies, Alderman Rankin said he hoped funding would become available to commence the work expediently. Councillor Cubitt suggested that Roads Service look to diverting traffic via Ringsend Road.

Dungiven By-Pass: In response to Councillor Brolly, Dr Murray said that the proposed by-pass for Dungiven had been included in a scheme to be completed in 5 – 10 years and that Road Service had commissioned consultants to find the best of 3 suggested lines, given the archaeological significance of the Priory and standing stones in the area.

Councillor Cubitt referred to planning applications being turned down on the possibility of where the by-pass would be located and suggested co-operation was needed between Planning and Road Service.

Ballykelly By-Pass: Dr Murray stated that Road Service were still working on identifying a suitable line for the proposed by-pass at Ballykelly.

3. NETWORK DEVELOPMENT:

Greysteel: In congratulating Road Service on the work completed at Greysteel, Councillor McElhinney said it was disappointing that water had started to pond on the hard shoulder at the Vale Centre.

Dry Arch Road – Minor Works: Councillor Butcher queried what criteria had been used in deciding to defer the minor works scheme at Dry Arch Road. Dr Murray responded that Road Service tried not to put in new structures when significant building work was taking place and that the developer was responsible for doing part of the footpath scheme.

Rossaire Road: Councillor Cubitt said consideration should be given to providing speed ramps at Rossaire Road and suggested that contractors be enforced to provide speed ramps when housing developments were being completed. Alderman Rankin agreed that traffic calming measures were needed as the road was used as a race track.

Seacoast Road: Alderman Mullan expressed concern at cars speeding on Seacoast Road and said it was disappointing that consideration had not been given to providing a footpath from the Anglers Rest to the Spar shop.

Councillor Butcher referred to the minor works scheme completed at Seacoast Road and said as this scheme had been completed £14,000 under budget, the surplus money could have been used for the provision of street lights.

Safety Barriers - Drumcrun Road: Councillor Stevenson referred to the planned minor works scheme to erect a safety barrier on the bends at Seacoast Road, near the junction with Duncrun Road and said this would not stop cars going on to railway track. He highlighted that safety barriers were needed at Magilligan School.

Gortgare Road: Councillor McElhinney raised concerns at cars speeding on the upper end of Gortgare Road. Dr Murray clarified that Road Service could not provide speeding ramps as this section of the road was unadopted.

Flooding at Tircreven Road: Councillor Butcher highlighted that a number of residents had complained about flooding at Tircreven Road and that additional gullies were needed to take the flood water away.

Speeding - Ballyquin Road: Councillor Douglas welcomed the proposed traffic scheme at Ballyquin Road and said consideration should be given to introducing measurements to reduce speeding.

Legavallon Road/Curragh Road: Councillor Douglas referred to poor visibility at Curragh Road/Legavallon Road junction and suggested Road Service take on board letters of complaint.

Councillor Chivers requested that Road Service investigate the possibility of widening the narrow bridge on this road.

Directional Signs - Tullyverry: Councillor McElhinney stated that directional road signs were needed at Greysteel for turning right to Tullyverry. Mr Murray said there was not enough room for an extra lane and arrows on the road would add to the problem of turning right.

Traffic Calming – Crindle: Councillor Stevenson suggested that consideration be given to traffic calming at Crindle.

Traffic Calming - Various Estates: Councillor Chivers requested that traffic calming measures be introduced at Ardarvan Cottages; Ard na Smoll; Beech Road, Drumsurn and Lackagh Park, Dungiven.

Councillor Butcher said there was a grey area on the provision of traffic calming in estates by Road Service and the Housing Executive. Dr Murray outlined Road Service criteria on provision of traffic measures and said the Housing Executive provided traffic calming measures on their estates.

Pedestrian Measures – Dungiven: Councillor Ó hOisín welcomed the proposed £5,000 spend on dropped kerbs at Limavady and requested that Dungiven kerbs be given similar treatment as it was nearly impossible for circumnavigate footpaths in Dungiven without going onto private property.

Central Car Park: Councillor Cubitt referred to the cost of improvements at central car park and queried if there were additional charges for using the credit card ticket machine. Dr Murray clarified that funding to improve the appearance of the car park had come from DSD and that whilst Road Service preferred people paid by cash, there would be no charge for using a credit card.

Alderman Rankin welcomed the improvements and pointed out that there were many people who were pleased with the work that was being carried out.

Widening of Tamlough Bridge: Councillor Carten voiced his approval of work carried out at Tartnakelly bridge and said similar work needed to be done at Tamlough. Bridge.

Slip lane at Central Primary School: To aid congestion, Alderman Mullan suggested that Road Service provide a slip lane at Central Primary School.

Mill Place: Alderman Rankin pointed out that minor work was needed on both sides of Mill Place link road to the by-pass.

Street Lighting - Drumsurn: Councillor Chivers requested a meeting regarding the provision of additional lights at St Mathew's Church and local football pitch to Drumsurn Village.

Greystone Road: Alderman Rankin highlighted that half of the pensioner bungalows at Greystone Road had little or no street lights and this was a concern to residents in the winter months.

Drumavally: Alderman Mullan said that lights were needed in Drumavally to prevent anti social behaviour. Dr Murray explained that Road Service would provide street lighting between speed limit signs; if the site had a poor accident history and at isolated junctions but anti-social behaviour was not taken into consideration.

Flags Flying – Edenmore Road: Dr Murray voiced his regret that a large number of flags were erected at Edenmore Road so early in the marching season. He said it was disappointing that the PSNI had not introduced a protocol on where flags should be flown and unfortunately Road Service could not prosecute as they did not know who put the flags up.

Alderman Mullan stated that the marking of territory did nothing but create division and fear and that people with influence in Edenmore or Irish Green Street should ensure contentious flags be taken down.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

Appointment of Chief Executive: The Town Clerk reminded members that 3 unionist members still had to be appointed to interview panel for appointment of Chief Executive.

It was agreed that Councillor Brolly and Councillor Butcher would attend the assessment centres at Whitehorse Hotel on 2 and 3 June 2005.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS

(The meeting ended at 10.15 pm)