

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

**DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE**

**13 AUGUST 2013**

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

**PRESENT:**

Aldermen M Coyle, G Robinson and J Rankin. Councillors O Beattie, B Chivers, G Mullan, T McCaul, J McCorkell, S McGlinchey (chair) C McLaughlin, A Robinson and E Stevenson.

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Director of Development and Committee Clerk.

**APOLOGIES:** - Councillors A Brolly, B Douglas, D Nicholl and Chief Executive.

**PRESENTATION – MAGILLIGAN FIELD CENTRE:**

The Chair welcomed Ms Liz Wallace, Magilligan Field Centre to the meeting.

Ms Wallace exhibited images to Council which gave an overview of the facilities and activities Magilligan Field Centre provide in Northern Ireland.

Alderman G Robinson joined the meeting at 7.10pm

Ms Wallace explained that Magilligan Field Centre (MFC) was the last remaining residential and day Field Centre within the NI Education system. MFC officially opened on 29 September 1973 and no additional buildings have been erected since 1979. On 1 January 2000 an Assistant Adviser was appointed by WELB to revitalise the programme as intake had dwindled to approximately 400 students per annum on a daily basis. It now has a consistent annual footfall of approximately 4,500 students. MFC currently employs 8 staff onsite and caters for Primary Studies, specifically targeting The World Around Us and Post Primary Studies, specifically targeted for Biology, Geography and Geology.

MFC offer great resources and training opportunities, they aim to provide:

- A wide range of memorable Learning Outside the classroom (LOtC) that connects children and young people to their local environment.
- Demonstrate how action can help improve the quality of life for people locally and globally and understand the interdependence of economy, environment and society.
- Exercise environmental responsibility through conservation of resources, waste management and promotion of local bio/geo-diversity.
- Quality training and professional development for schools and wider workforce to deliver these experiences.

Councillor A Robinson joined the meeting at 7.20pm.

Points made in the discussion which followed included:

- Magilligan Field Centre was a valuable service to the Borough
- Great display of photographs worthy of an exhibition
- Credit was given to all staff for their work and a great asset to Magilligan.
- Members expressed an interest in visiting the Centre to view first-hand the great facilities.

The Chair thanked Ms Wallace for an informative and impressive presentation.

#### **MINUTES:**

The minutes of meeting dated 18 June 2013 were approved on the proposal of Councillor T McCaul, seconded by Councillor B Chivers.

**MATTERS ARISING:** None

#### **DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT REPORT ~ AUGUST 2013:**

The Director of Development presented the Development Report for August 2013 and enlarged thereon. The report was approved on the proposal of Councillor B Chivers, seconded by Councillor J McCorkell subject to the following:

**Roe Valley Arts and Heritage Committee:** Council approved the retrospective payment of £1000 with a further payment of £1000 for planned activities included in the 2013/2014 financial year. It was agreed that payment towards the small grants process would be made on receipt of a report of successful applicant awards.

**Northern Ireland Milk Cup 2013:** Council approved the release of £15,000 allocated in the rates estimates for the 2013 tournament once the conditions set out in the letter of offer were fulfilled. Following on from members comments the Director of Development stated she would investigate the costs and funding availability for installing a covered stand at 3G Pitch.

**Shop Front Improvement Scheme – ReVitalise Limavady – Current progress:** Council agreed that the cost of £1,000 for data collection be taken from the budget already set aside for on-going work with the Department for Social Development. The Director of Development to investigate if this funding could be used towards the provision of WIFI.

**Small Grants Programme:** The following requests for funding from Economic Development were approved:

- Greysteel Community Association - £1000 towards a home-help/garden scheme in the Bellerena area, utilising unemployed people who wish to develop their skills.
- Limavady Crafters - £750 towards support for marquee hire for summer and Christmas markets within the Borough.

**Run to Remember – NI Chest, Heart and Stroke:** Council granted permission for NI Chest Heart and Stroke to hold a Run to Remember at Benone Strand on Saturday 14 September 2013.

**Surfers Against Sewage – Cold Water Beach Clean Series:** It was agreed that Council would accept the invitation to have Benone Strand participate in the Cold Water Beach Clean Series on 5 October 2013.

**Brighter Gold Hoard Loan:** The Director of Development notified members that Brighter Gold would be exhibited in Limavady before the end of 2013 and all the artefacts, with the exception of the boat, which is too fragile to be moved, would be part of the exhibition. A member asked that the possibility of the boat being included in the exhibition be explored. It was also suggested that the Nicholl family be involved and acknowledged on the arrival or the display of the hoard.

**Incident at Benone Strand 21 July 2013:** It was agreed that a Civic reception be held for the family involved in the incident as a sign of respect.

#### **Consultations:**

**Business Improvement District Regulations:** Members were advised that Friday 6 September 2013 was the closing date for written evidence, any comments to be passed to Development Services Manager.

**2014-2020 ERDF Consultation –** Members were advised that the consultation runs until 21 October 2013, any comments to be passed to Development Services Manager.

#### *Issues Raised Outside the Report:*

**Dromore Football Club:** Members showed their concern at the lack of facilities at Dromore Football Club. The Director of Development to investigate further.

#### **ANY OTHER BUSINESS:**

**Civic Reception:** It was agreed that a civic reception would be held for Under 14's St Matthews Gaelic Team on winning the All Ireland Féile.

**Swimming at Benone:** The Mayor, Councillor G Mullan referred to a swimming incident at Benone Beach and enquired if existing signage outlined the dangers of swimming in the open sea.

**Limavady Music Legend – Jimmy O'Hara:** A request was made that an exhibition or other appropriate way of celebrating the music and talent of the late Jimmy O'Hara should be explored.

**Roe Valley Arts & Cultural Centre – Auditorium:** In response to a query from a member the Director of Development informed members that Officers were already aware of the matter and exploring if it could be resolved satisfactorily.

**Bovally – Playarea:** The Director of Development updated members on the current situation regarding the open space at Bovally. This is being progressed with the Developers and the Operations Manager.

**Drumceatt Square:** It was highlighted that Drumceatt Square needed a thorough clean on a daily basis and Drumceatt Square should be utilised further.

**Limavady 400:** Members congratulated staff for the on-going success of the Limavady 400 events.

Tribute was given to the Operations Manager for a quick and efficient reaction regarding an incident with broken glass.

**Mayor's Charity Fun day:** The Mayor Councillor G Mullan paid thanks to the Operations Manager and all staff for their help and contribution towards the success of the fun day on Sunday 4 August 2013.

**'Heritage Practice in Contested Spaces' Seminar:** Council agreed to host a lunchtime reception as a welcome to delegates on the opening day – 23 September 2013. Cost approx. £500.

**NEXT MEETING** – 10 September 2013

**THE BUSINESS CONCLUDED AT 9.00 PM**

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chair of Meeting