

**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD
ON MONDAY 13TH JANUARY 2014**

In the Chair: Councillor C McShane

Members Present: Councillors J Baird, S Blaney, D F Cunningham,
W Graham, S Hunter, R D McDonnell, R McIlroy,
S McKillop, M A McKillop, S McKillop, P McShane,
C C Thompson

Also Present: Mr R G Lewis, Clerk and Chief Executive

Mrs M Quinn, Director of Corporate Services

Mr A McPeake, Director of Environmental Services

Mrs E Mulholland, Director of Development Services

Ms D Bader, Member Services Clerical Officer

14/01:01

APOLOGIES AND CHAIRMAN'S BUSINESS

Apologies

Apologies were received on behalf of Councillors D McAllister and McCambridge.

Chairman's Business

RSPB - Rathlin Island Visitor Centre

Concerns were raised over the proposed closure of Rathlin Island Visitor Centre during 2014 whilst refurbishments and improvement works to the lighthouse and Visitor Centre took place. It was stated that this closure for one year would be detrimental to the economy of the island as it depended on visitors to the bird colony for a major part of its revenue and would also cause hardship to the Islanders.

There were also concerns that the decision was made by RSPB, Irish Lights and NI Environment Agency without the consultation of the elected representatives.

Councillor Baird proposed,

Seconded by Councillor P McShane and resolved,

“That Council would write to RSPB, Irish Lights and NI Environment Agency requesting an urgent meeting in an endeavour to seek an alternative to a complete closure. It was also agreed that Council would write to the Ministers for the Environment NI and Dail to seek their support.”

Urban Development Grants

It was agreed that Council would approve the request from McCurdy Surveying and the AD Group of Chartered Surveyors to hold a meeting in the Mayors Parlour on 26th February 2014 to discuss Urban Development Grants.

New Year's Honours List

Congratulations were extended to Kathleen Elliott founder of Good Morning Ballycastle having been awarded the British Empire Medal for services to the community in Ballycastle.

Presentations to Council

Reference was made to a request received from Christians Against Poverty to present at a future Council Meeting to discuss "Struggling with Debt". It was agreed that this request would be approved.

It was reported that a request had been made by Northern Ireland Commonwealth Games Council to present at a Council Meeting. It was agreed that this request would be forwarded to Moyle Sports Advisory Committee.

14/01:02

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest.

14/01:03

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 9TH DECEMBER 2013

The minutes of the Council Meeting on 9th December 2013 were taken as read.

With reference to the list of people present it was agreed that this be amended to read **Tony Morrison, Sports Consultant Armoy Rugby Club.**

It was also agreed that Councillor S McKillop's name be removed from Members Present as she had not attended the meeting.

After discussion,

Councillor Baird proposed,
Seconded by Councillor Graham and resolved,
"That the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 9th December 2013 be adopted, subject to the above amendments."

14/01:04

**MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON 9TH DECEMBER 2013**

Arts Funding

(Requested by Councillor Cunningham)

With reference to item 13/26:06 page 2 it was stated that Council would discuss the possibility of increasing the Arts Council Budget for 2014/2015 at the Rates Estimates Workshops.

Charging Policies for Recreation/Community Facilities

(Requested by Councillor Cunningham)

With reference to item 13/26:09 page 5, it was reported that the Leisure Services Manager would look into reviewing its charging policy for recreation/community facilities with a view to discounting admission/hire for senior citizens and those that were registered as disabled.

14/01:05

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES REPORT

The Development Services Report, having been circulated, was taken as read.

Extension to Letters of Offer

It was agreed that Council would approve the request for an extension for final claims of grant-aid for Armoy Road Racing Club and Rathlin Development Association to the 31st March 2014, to allow the completion of their projects.

Rural/Marine Tourism in Waterfoot

It was reported that Council had received correspondence from Glenariffe Improvement Group requesting Councils' permission and encouragement to proceed with a feasibility study to construct a foot cycle bridge and pathways under their rural marine tourism proposal as originally proposed in the scheme for which land and property were vested. This would be at a cost of £6,000.

After discussion, which included land belonging to Council, Glenariffe Improvement Group applying for funding under the Tourism Infrastructure Fund or whether the £6,000 should be added to the Rates Estimates for 2014/2015,

Councillor Thompson proposed,
Seconded by Councillor MA McKillop,
"That Council would work with Glenariffe Improvement Group in applying for a grant of £6,000 from the Tourism Infrastructure Fund to fund the feasibility study."

After further discussion,

Councillor McIlroy proposed an amendment,
Seconded by Councillor S McKillop,
“That the cost of the feasibility study of £6,000 should be added to the Rates
Estimates for 2014/2015.”

A recorded vote was requested by Councillor Thompson.

On a recorded vote being taken on the amendment, Councillors McIlroy and S McKillop voted in favour of and Councillors Blaney, Cunningham, Graham, Hunter, N McAllister, MA McKillop, C McShane, P McShane and Thompson voted against the amendment which was lost. Councillors Baird and McDonnell abstained.

On a recorded vote being taken on the proposal, Councillors Baird, Blaney, Cunningham, Graham, Hunter, N McAllister, McDonnell, MA McKillop, C McShane, P McShane and Thompson voted in favour of and there were no votes against the proposal which was carried. Councillors McIlroy and S McKillop abstained.

Request from The National Museums Northern Ireland

After discussion, it was agreed that Council would approve the loan of the Glen Taisie banner from the Ballycastle Museum to the National Museums of Northern Ireland for a period of two years excluding June, July and August, subject to them meeting UK registrars loan conditions for their exhibition ‘A Step in Time’.

Single Planning Policy Statement

With reference to quotes received re the Single Planning Policy Statement, it was agreed that Council would defer their decision until after the DoE Seminar to be held on 4th February 2014.

Seeding Grant Application

It was reported that East Antrim National Graves had applied for a seeding grant for the purpose of publicity, promotion and recruitment to the group and general running costs of the group, plus hire of venues and equipment for meetings.

After discussion, which included the likelihood of other groups looking for funding projects on graves and funding criteria for Seeding Grants,

Councillor N McAllister proposed,
Seconded by Councillor P McShane,
“That Council award a Seeding Grant of £300 to East Antrim National
Graves.”

A recorded vote was requested by Councillor Thompson.

On a recorded vote being taken on the proposal, Councillors Cunningham, Hunter, N McAllister, MA McKillop, C McShane, P McShane and Thompson voted in favour of and Councillors Blaney, Graham, McDonnell, McIlroy and S McKillop voted against the proposal which was carried. Councillor Baird abstained.

Waterfoot Village – Coastal Communities Application for Funding

It was reported that the application made to the Coastal Communities Fund to develop the old derelict toilet block at Waterfoot Beach into a coastal facility offering a multi-functional space for tourism and the local community had been successful.

NITB's Valuing Tourism Campaign

Reference was made to the NITB's "We're Valuing Tourism – Campaigning for Tourism Brochure" which was circulated at the meeting.

After discussion, it was agreed that Council would approve the use of MDC's logo on NITB's 'Valuing Tourism' website and likewise the use of the 'Valuing Tourism' logo on MDS's promotional literature as appropriate.

Councillor McIlroy left the meeting.

Causeway Museum Service Strategic Plan 2011-2014 extension to March 2016

Councillor McIlroy returned to the meeting.

After discussion, it was agreed that Council would approve the extension of the Causeway Museum Service Strategic Plan 2011-2014 until March 2016.

Councillor N McAllister left the meeting.

Moyle Sports Fund

Councillor N McAllister returned to the meeting.

It was reported that from the 10 applications received and submitted to Moyle Sports Advisory Committee Meeting for consideration, five applications were recommended for approval and five had been rejected on the basis that they had not included the £10 affiliation fee to Moyle Sports Advisory Committee, as per set down criteria.

After discussion on the set down criteria, it was agreed that Council would approve the five applications that had met the required criteria.

After further discussion, which included the requirement of the affiliation fee, that the grant was in its infancy and a current underspend,

Councillor P McShane proposed,
Seconded by Councillor MA McKillop and resolved,
“That Council would ask for a second call and ensure that clubs were aware that they had to be affiliated to Moyle Sports Advisory Committee accompanied by a fee of £10 in order to be considered.”

Ballycastle Giro d'Italia Revitalise Application

After discussion, which included match funding and administration support, it was agreed that Council would provide administration support of £7,200 (in kind) and match-funding of £2,500.

It was also agreed that Council would write to the Minister of Environment and Minister of Tourism to enquire if any funding could be provided for the smaller villages in Moyle.

Revitalise

Reference was made to the £250,000 awarded for the Revitalise project currently taking place in Castle Street and Clare Street in Ballycastle and the opportunity to submit an application to DSD for a phase 2.

Issues discussed included paying money back to business owners, match funding, resources, the need for a project manager and associated costs, inclusion in the Rates Estimates and the risk element involved with proceeding with a Phase 2.

After discussion,

Councillor Cunningham proposed,
Seconded by Councillor Hunter,
“That Council set aside the cost of £41,000 with the intention of proceeding with a phase 2 of the application.”

After further discussion,

Councillor S McKillop proposed an amendment,
Seconded by Councillor McIlroy,
“That Council discusses the intention of preparing a Phase 2 application in the forthcoming Rates Estimates Workshop.”

On a vote being taken on the amendment there were 5 votes in favour of and 7 votes against the amendment, which was lost.

On a vote being taken on the proposal there were 8 votes in favour of and 3 votes against the proposal, which was carried.

Workshop to Review Criteria of all Council Grants

After discussion, it was agreed that Council would hold a workshop on 27th January 2014 at 2pm to review the criteria of all the grant schemes that Council presently administers.

Councillor S McKillop wished it to be recorded that she welcomed the review of criteria of all council grants.

Councillor McIlroy left the meeting.
Councillor McIlroy returned to the meeting.

Giro d'Italia

It was reported that the Northern Ireland Tourist Board were to hold an event at Portnagree House on 5th February 2014, to launch the tool kit for Giro d'Italia, and that local business had been invited.

After discussion,

Councillor McIlroy proposed,
Seconded by Councillor Blaney and resolved,
"That the Development Services Report be adopted."

14/01:06

CORPORATE SERVICES REPORT

The Corporate Services Report, having been circulated, was taken as read.

Armoy Rugby Club

Reference was made to an email received from Gareth Christie of Armoy Rugby Club following their presentation to Council on 9th December 2013.

After discussion,

Councillor Baird proposed,
Seconded by Councillor Hunter and resolved,
"That Council would begin working with Armoy Rugby Club on the lease and provide on-going support for their project."

Tender for Supply of Goods and Material and/or Provision of Services

After discussion, it was agreed that Council would extend the Tenders for Supply of Goods and Materials and/or Provision of Services for 2014/2015 on the basis that the prices tendered for 2013/2014 remain fixed.

Schedule of Workshops – Estimates 2014/2015

The DCS reported that workshops were to be held to discuss the Estimates for 2014/2015. Some members felt that the Estimates should be discussed at Council Meetings.

On a vote being taken on the Rates Estimates to be discussed at Workshops to be held on Monday 20th January 2014 at 6pm, Monday 27th January 2014 6-7pm and Monday 3rd February 2014 at 6pm and hold a Council Meeting on Monday 10th February 2014 to strike the rate, there were 5 votes in favour of and 5 votes against. The Chairman using her casting vote voted for the motion, which was carried.

After discussion,

Councillor Blaney proposed,
Seconded by Councillor Graham and resolved,
“That the Corporate Services Report be adopted.”

Councillor C McShane left the meeting.

14/01:07

INTERIM ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES REPORT

The Interim Environmental Services Report, having been circulated, was taken as read.

Councillor C McShane returned to the meeting.

Update on Seafront Cushendall

Councillor Cunningham left the meeting.

The DES tabled a report on the substantial damage caused to the sea defences at Cushendall Beach and Dalriada area as a result of the tidal surges on Friday 3rd January and Monday 6th January 2014.

Councillor Cunningham returned to the meeting.

After discussion, which included response time, work completed, costs of repairs and storage of sandbags, it was agreed that Council would look at costs for providing sandbags and a container to hold them.

Cushendall and Cushendun Caravan Park Website Proposals

After discussion, it was agreed that Council would continue with the development of the website to cover Cushendun and Cushendall Caravan Parks using the domain www.glenscoastcaravanparks.com and would approve the installation of security barriers at a cost of approx. £5000 each, which would be included in the Capital Rates Budget for 2014/2015.

After discussion,

Councillor Hunter proposed,
Seconded by Councillor Cunningham and resolved,
“That the Interim Environmental Services Report be adopted.”

Councillor McIlroy and Councillor MA McKillop left the meeting.

14/01:08

THAT THIS COUNCIL SUPPORTS THE RETENTION OF THE N.I.H.E. AND ALSO THE HOUSING COUNCIL AND THAT COUNCIL WRITE TO THE OTHER 25 COUNCILS SEEKING THEIR SUPPORT

(Requested by Councillor Blaney)

Councillor McIlroy and Councillor MA McKillop returned to the meeting.

Members expressed their continuing concern over the proposed closure of the NIHE and Housing Council.

Following discussion, which included rents, fairness and equality, funding and building of houses, it was agreed that Council would write to the other 25 Councils seeking their support for the retention of the NIHE and also the Housing Council. Councillor Hunter and Councillor S McKillop left the meeting. Councillor S McKillop returned to the meeting.

14/01:09

THAT ANY COUNCILLOR NOT SEEKING ELECTION FOR THE NEW SUPER COUNCIL CAN GIVE THEIR NOTICE BETWEEN NOW AND 31ST MARCH 2014

(Requested by Councillor Blaney)

This item had already been covered in the Corporate Services Report.

14/01:10

THAT MOYLE COUNCIL CARRIES OUT ALL NECESSARY REPAIRS TO LEGG GREEN AND CUSHENDALL BEACH BEFORE THE BEGINNING OF THE TOURIST SEASON AT EASTER

(Requested by Councillor Thompson)

This item had already been covered in the Interim Environmental Services Report.

14/01:11

IN AN EFFORT TO BE SPADE READY FOR POSSIBLE FUNDING, THAT THIS COUNCIL APPLIES FOR PLANNING PERMISSION FOR THE FULL TOURISM AND LEISURE PROJECT IN GLENARIFFE FOREST PARK

(Requested by Councillor Thompson)

After discussion, which included concerns of moving forward too quickly and the cost of £105,000 for an integrated design team to take this forward, it was agreed that this will be deferred until after the next meeting with the Forestry Service.

14/01:12

THAT THIS COUNCIL RECOGNISES THE BRAVERY OF BOTH RED BAY LIFEBOAT STATION AND BALLCASTLE COASTGUARDS

(Requested by Councillor P McShane)

After discussion, it was agreed that Council would hold a reception to recognise the volunteer work and bravery of Red Bay Lifeboat Station and Ballycastle Coastguards.

14/01:13

CONFERENCES AND COURSES

- (a) Association of Municipal Authorities of Ireland Spring Seminar 2014 to be held on 14th and 15th February 2014 at Great Northern Hotel, Bundoran, Co Donegal Ireland.

After discussion it was agreed that Council would obtain more information on this and that it therefore be deferred until the next Council Meeting on 27th January 2014.

- (b) Bio Diversity - Seminar at Stormont to meet the Minister of Environment on 28th January 2014.

Councillor Blaney proposed,
Seconded by Councillor McIlroy and resolved,
"That Councillor MA McKillop would attend as an approved duty."

Councillor Baird proposed,
Seconded by Councillor Blaney and resolved,
"That Councillor McIlroy would attend as an approved duty."

- (c) DOE Seminar on Renewable Energy Policy and the Strategic Planning Policy Statement to be held on Tuesday 4th February 2014 in the Burnavon Arts and Cultural Centre, Burn Road, Cookstown (circulated on the night).

Councillor McIlroy proposed,
Seconded by Councillor N McAllister and resolved,
"That Councillor Cunningham be nominated."

14/01:14

NOTICES OF APPLICATIONS UNDER THE LICENSING (NI) ORDER 1996 AND BETTING, GAMING, LOTTERIES AND AMUSEMENTS (NI) ORDER 1985

Application for grant of a Licence authorising the sale of intoxicating liquor at Fin McCool's, 124 Main Street, Bushmills

There were no objections to the above application.

14/01:15

SEALING OF DOCUMENTS

There were no documents for signing and sealing.

14/01:16

CORRESPONDENCE

- (a) Letter dated 11th December 2013 from Ruth Galway – Private Secretary to Danny Kennedy MLA in response to letter sent by Council regarding the implementation of the Vehicle Restraint System, Cushendall Road, Ballycastle.
- (b) Letter dated 11th December 2013 from The Regulation and Quality Improvement Authority with reference to the Independent Expert-Led Inquiry into Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) in Northern Ireland.
- (c) Letter dated 12th December 2013 from Tidal Ventures Ltd – a progress update investigating the development of a commercial scale 100 MW tidal energy array in the waters offshore of Torr Head.
- (d) Letter dated 13th December 2013 from Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety in reply to Councils letter dated 25th November 2013 to Edwin Poots, regarding a publicity campaign to highlight prostate cancer and to ensure a proper aftercare service.

It was agreed that the above correspondence would be marked as read.

- (e) Letter dated 16th December 2013 from ABF The Soldiers' Charity with reference to a Great War Commemoration Concert to be held on Saturday 8th March 2014 at 8pm at Belfast Waterfront.

After discussion, which included Council paying for Councillors to attend,

Councillor S McKillop proposed,
Seconded by Councillor Baird and resolved,
“That Councillor Graham be nominated to attend the Great War Commemoration Concert to be held at the Belfast Waterfront on Saturday 8th March 2014.”

Councillor Graham proposed,
Seconded by Councillor Baird and resolved,
“That Councillor S McKillop be nominated to attend the Great War Commemoration Concert to be held at the Belfast Waterfront on Saturday 8th March 2014.”

Councillor S McKillop wished it to be recorded that she found the attitude and comments made by Councillor P McShane despicable.

- (f) Letter dated 17th December 2013 from Edwin Poots MLA with reference to Councils letter dated 5th November 2013 regarding the future of Dalriada Hospital.
- (g) Letter dated 17th December 2013 from The Electoral Commission regarding important changes to the confidentiality rules on donations and loans to registered political parties and holders of elective office in Northern Ireland.
- (h) Letter dated 18th December 2013 from Antrim Glens Tourism with reference to support for the domain name for the new Causeway Coast and Glens Council.
- (i) Letter dated 20th December 2013 from Roads Service with reference to the issues raised by Councillors at the Council Meeting of 11th November 2013.

It was agreed that the above correspondence would be marked as read.

- (j) Letter dated 23rd December 2013 from British Telecommunications regarding the removal of the public payphone at Capecastle Road, Ballycastle.

The meeting continued in Committee.

After discussion, it was agreed that Council would not object to the removal of this facility.

The Meeting continued out of Committee.

- (k) Letter dated 23rd December 2013 from Nelson McCausland MLA – Department for Social Development regarding the Reform of Local Government – Development of a Scheme between DSD and Local Government to Support Capacity Building for Regeneration/Community Development Activities.
- (l) Letter dated 6th January from Mark Durkan MLA – Department of the Environment with reference to Councils letter dated 19th December 2013 seeking clarification on the future for Group Systems for Building Control, Environmental Health and Waste Management.
- (m) Friends of the Earth Northern Ireland – No Fracking Way – Why fracking for shale gas is a gamble Northern Ireland does not need to take – November 2013.

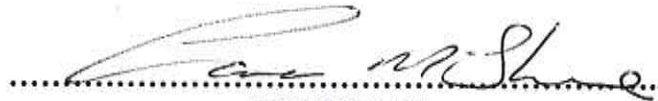
It was agreed that the above correspondence would be marked as read.

14/01:17

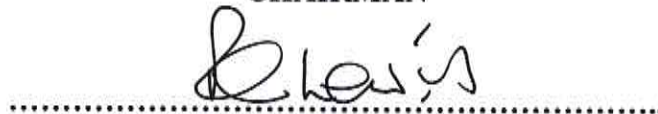
ANY OTHER BUSINESS WHICH MAY OF NECESSITY ARISE

There was no other business.

The meeting concluded at 22:05 pm

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "P. Milne", is written above a horizontal dotted line.

CHAIRMAN

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "B. Lewis", is written above a horizontal dotted line.

CLERK & CHIEF EXECUTIVE