

CASTLEREAGH BOROUGH COUNCIL

Minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of Castlereagh Borough Council held, in committee, in the Council Chamber, Civic & Administrative Offices, Bradford Court, Upper Galwally, Castlereagh, BT8 6RB on Thursday, 15th December 2005 at 5.00 p.m.

PRESENT:-

Councillor T Jeffers (in the chair)

Alderman Mrs I Robinson MP MLA (from 5.30 pm)

Councillor Mrs A M Beattie

Councillor J Beattie

Councillor Ms J Bunting

Councillor Mrs M Chambers

Councillor Mrs J Cochrane

Councillor D Drysdale

Councillor Mrs S Duncan

Councillor C Hall

Councillor M Henderson

Councillor Miss R Hughes MBE

Councillor M Long

Councillor J Norris MBE

Councillor A Ramsey

Councillor G Robinson

Councillor J Spratt

Councillor C Tosh

Councillor J White

IN ATTENDANCE:-

Chief Executive, Director of Finance & Leisure Services, Director of Technical & Environmental Services, Administrative Manager, Planning Officer and Assistant Members' Services Officer

APOLOGIES:-

Apologies were recorded on behalf of Aldermen PD Robinson MP MLA, Copeland, Mrs Rice – due to a mayoral commitment, and Councillor Hanvey.

2005/695 : OPENING OF MEETING

The Reverend Caldwell opened the meeting with a prayer.

2005/696 : SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

Following a request from the Mayor, it was

RESOLVED:- That, Members agree to a suspension of standing orders to enable the showing of a video tribute received by him from the MS Society.

2005/697 : VIDEO TRIBUTE TO DR GEORGE BEST PRODUCED BY MS SOCIETY

The Mayor informed Members that he had received a video tribute to George Best from the MS Society and this was played for Members' information.

Members agreed that the content of the video was extremely moving and a fitting tribute to Dr George Best.

Noted.

2005/698 : TWO MINUTE SILENCE FOR DR GEORGE BEST

At this point in the proceedings, Members stood for a two-minute silence to commemorate the death of one of the Council's Freemen of the Borough, Dr George Best.

Noted.

2005/699 : EXPRESSIONS OF THANKS TO COUNCIL STAFF RE: FUNERAL OF DR GEORGE BEST

Councillor Chambers wished to thank the Council staff involved for their wonderful work in organising the funeral of Dr George Best. She referred to the enormous volume of praise and congratulations received with regard to the way the funeral had been conducted and knew at first-hand the extent of work that Officers had put into the organising of the event. She wished to formally thank a number of Officers, on behalf of the Council, namely: the Chief Executive – who deserved the highest praise, the Director of Administration & Community Services – for her excellent co-ordination, the Administration Manager, Mrs Edel Patterson – for her major contribution, and the various team leaders and members of staff who each played an invaluable role.

She also wished to thank the Administration and Community Services staff who had worked in the background looking after the coaches and VIP's, and she paid tribute to the Technical Services staff who had kept the route clean before and after the service, as well as assisting with public safety in the Stormont estate.

She wished to pay special commendation to Mrs Jill Simpson, who despite her recent ill-health, had made an excellent contribution in organising the media.

She went on to say that the Council staff had went above and beyond their call of duty working late into the evening, and many Councils were envious of the calibre of staff in Castlereagh in successfully organising an event of this scale and magnitude. She felt that Castlereagh Borough Council could not have given Dr George Best a more fitting or tasteful “send-off”, and everyone involved deserved a real “clap in the back” from the Elected Members.

She commented that it was appropriate at this time to remember the Best family, who were still grieving, and felt that the Council should be mindful of this fact and should respect their wishes.

Councillor White concurred with the Councillor’s comments and referred to the extent of phone calls received from around the world. In light of the tremendous efforts of the Council staff in organising the funeral of Dr George Best, he proposed that this year on the 23rd December 2005, instead of the usual half-day, that Council staff be permitted to take the whole day off as an appreciation of their outstanding work by the Elected Members.

This proposal was seconded by Councillor Henderson.

Furthermore, that any employee who have to work on the 23rd December 2005 be given a day off in lieu.

Alderman Mrs Robinson arrived to the meeting at 5.30 p.m.

Councillor Henderson wished to take this opportunity to thank the Chief Executive, the Chairman of the Central Services Committee, the PSNI, and La Mon House for their involvement in the successful organisation of the funeral of Dr George Best.

He went on to comment that people had been so impressed with the organisation that he had been asked if the Council had especially drafted in an Events Co-ordinator to co-ordinate the funeral service. He was proud that the success of the event had reflected the fact that Castlereagh was the premier Borough in Northern Ireland.

Councillor Duncan, on behalf of the Alliance Party wished to thank the Chairmen of all the Committees and the staff involved and stated that it had been a privilege to be present at the funeral of Dr George Best, and felt that the Best family appreciated the service that had been organised.

Councillor Hughes, again thanked the Chief Executive and Officers involved in organising the event and was delighted to see that the efforts of the staff had been recognised in permitting a full day off on the 23rd December 2005.

Alderman Mrs Robinson commented that she believed that the funeral of Dr George Best had been the greatest event Northern Ireland had ever witnessed. She referred to the amount of praise extolled on the way the service had been conducted and the dignity displayed, and although the weather conditions on the day had been regrettable, she felt that they,

somehow, reflected the sombre mood of Northern Ireland at the loss of one of its greatest sporting heroes.

She expressed her disappointment, however, at the media coverage, which had in her opinion, been very lax in paying tribute to the Council's Chief Executive and the Officers involvement. She added that to organise a funeral service of this magnitude within 5 days was a phenomenal achievement and, as Mayor of Castlereagh on 3 occasions, she knew that Castlereagh Borough Council led the way with regard to its co-ordination of the Freedom of the Borough events for the RUC and other gallant organisations.

She felt it was a pity that recognition of the work carried out by the Council had not been more widespread and she was disappointed to note that the "Newtownards Chronicle" had not displayed one photograph showing a member of Council. She stressed that although the Elected Members were not seeking credit for themselves they wished to ensure that the contributions made by the Officers received the tributes they deserved and she particularly wished to pay tribute to Mrs Edel Patterson for contacting Peter Corry and Brian Kennedy to participate in the funeral service.

Alderman Mrs Robinson then referred to her Christian faith and was especially delighted to be told by the Best family that Professor Williams had also been a "born-again" Christian, as was one of the nurses treating Dr Best during his final hours.

Alderman Robinson referred to previous criticism when the Council had awarded Dr George Best the Freedom of the Borough of Castlereagh because of his flawed personality, however she reiterated that the Council had honoured his great contribution to sport and his legendary football skills and, as such, he deserved the highest praise.

She wished to extend her deepest sympathies to the Best family circle and her prayers were with them at this sad time.

The Mayor then referred to the numerous correspondence and emails that the Council had received and he read out an excerpt from a letter received from the Hibernians Football Club whom George Best had played for in his latter days. He informed Members that in its content, they acknowledged the magnitude of the task facing the Council and its Officers in organising such an event, and they forwarded their congratulations and praise.

Councillor Drysdale concurred with the comments made and stated that although he had been in London at that time, there had been extensive coverage of the funeral service. He felt it was fitting that every denomination had saluted a footballer who had been the best in the world and appreciated the true genius of George Best. Furthermore, he was proud that Castlereagh would always be remembered in history as the place where Dr George Best had been born and resided.

At this point, the Chief Executive thanked the Elected Members for their congratulatory comments, on behalf of the Officers and staff involved in the organisation.

RESOLVED:- That, the Elected Members wish to thank the Officers and staff of the Council for their tremendous work in organising a most memorable and moving funeral service to commemorate the life of Dr George Best despite the restricted timeframe. Furthermore, that the actual funeral service had been a sensitive and moving event which had been highly received and praised around the world.

In appreciation and recognition of the work of the Officers and staff involved, that Members resolve that a full day's leave be granted on the 23rd December 2005 and any employee having to work on the 23rd December be given a day off in lieu.

2005/700 : MINUTES

RESOLVED : That

- (a) the following Minutes be accepted as a true record:
- Leisure Services Committee meeting of 13 December 2005
 - Finance & General Purposes meeting of 8 December 2005
- (b) the following Minutes be accepted as a true record, subject to the following amendments:
- Council meeting of 24 November 2005
 - Minute Ref No: 2005/693 – that the sentence be amended to read that “Richard Mills of Belvoir Players contacted the Mayor”
 - Minute Ref No: 2005/653
Amend “West Winds” to read “Four Winds” and “Robins Park” to “Roddens Park”.
Resolution to be amended to read that an initial meeting will be held with the relevant Officers to establish the locations for signage prohibiting the consumption of alcohol, prior to a meeting to be scheduled with the PSNI to discuss same.
 - Minute Ref No: 2005/642 – Amend “50%” to read “some” and “obtained” to read “donated”.
 - Minute Ref No: 2005/691 – Amend “two brothers” to read “two uncles”
 - Technical & Environmental Services Committee meeting of 6 December 2005
 - Minute Ref No: TSC/2005/461 – to amend the wording “would” to read “may”.

- Minute Ref No: TSC/2005/418 – to change wording to “dusk to dawn”.
- Central Services Committee meeting of 12 December 2005
 - Minute Ref Nos: CS/2005/141 & CS/2005/154 to be taken back for consideration.

**2005/701 : SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING OF 17 NOVEMBER 2005
REGARDING CLOSURE OF LIBRARIES IN THE BOROUGH**

In light of the importance of the issues discussed relating to the closure of libraries in the Borough, it was agreed that these minutes be taken back and re-issued to ensure that Members are satisfied that the content reflects that the Council has fought continuously to retain the existing libraries within the Castlereagh Borough.

Councillor Robinson referred to a number of questions that had been raised, to which the Chief Administrative Officer had given her commitment to provide answers, which were still outstanding. In lieu of this fact, he asked that a further letter from the Council be sent seeking responses to the issues raised.

He then referred to the situation at Brooklands Primary School and sought clarification in relation to how many surveys had been carried out since the reinstatement of the temporary School Crossing Patrolman. Furthermore, he queried how many surveys had been carried out by the SEELB since the Special Council Meeting held on the 17th November 2005.

Councillor Spratt informed Members that the SEELB had made no decision regarding libraries in the Borough at this time. However, he stressed the need to continue to pressurise the Board to retain the existing libraries, and added that Belvoir Library pressure group were particularly effective in this respect.

He added that the same idea applied to the retention of school crossing patrols, as the Board had carried out around 5-6 surveys at Brooklands Primary School, which had now increased to 9-10. He expressed concern that these surveys were being carried out by the Board in a bid to obtain the information they required.

Councillor Long concurred with these comments and referred to the situation at the Lower Braniel Road. He stated that the Lower Braniel Road had been deemed by the Roads Service, hazardous enough to require urgent traffic calming measures, yet had still been denied a School Crossing Patrolman by the Board, and he felt that their tests were too stringent and needed further review.

He again referred to the inadequate transport system within the Borough and indicated that he would like to see Board Members trying to gain access from one library to another, as they appeared unaware of the existing difficulties.

Councillor Spratt indicated that, when this matter had been highlighted, the Board had produced a map of the various bus routes, but he had been quick to point out that none of the routes actually cut across the Borough.

In light of the importance of the matter, Councillor Bunting expressed her anger that the Board had held a meeting since its presentation to Council on the 17th November, yet there had been no reference made to the meeting with Members, nor had the comments that had been highlighted at that time been reported to Board Members, either verbally or written.

At this point, Councillor Spratt wished to inform Members that both he, and Councillor Tosh had raised this issue with Board Members.

Councillor Bunting stressed the need for a co-ordinated approach to retain library services within the Borough and suggested that a cross-party working group be urgently set up to discuss a strategy whereby Elected Members and Pressure Groups can work in a coherent and co-ordinated manner.

Following discussion, it was therefore

RESOLVED:- That,

- (a) a meeting be convened early in the New Year with representation from all Parties, the 3 MP's for the area, namely Alderman PD Robinson, Alderman Mrs Robinson and Mr Alistair McDonnell, to ensure that representation has been cross-District Electoral Area and to develop a coordinated approach and strategy to assist Elected Members and Pressure Groups to retain existing libraries within the Borough.
- (b) Party Whips to forward Officers a list of the names of those Members to be involved in the discussions.
- (c) The Chief Executive to write to the SEELB expressing the Members' disappointment that, following the Special Council meeting held on the 17th November 2005, the views and concerns of the Council had not been transmitted to Members of the Board either verbally or in report form.

2005/702 : SPECIAL CENTRAL SERVICES MEETING OF 14 DECEMBER 2005

Councillor Chambers informed Members that these minutes were for information only as the Committee had executive powers for discussion of this matter.

Councillor Beattie commented that he had spoken with the Planning Officer and had informed her that any amendments required, would be made on submission of a full planning application.

Noted.

2005/703 : COUNCIL CHAMBER'S MICROPHONE SYSTEM

RESOLVED:- That, the IT Manager be instructed to repair the microphone system at the top table of the Council Chamber.

MATTERS ARISING

**2005/704 : DUNDONALD VILLAGE SIGNAGE
(Minute Ref No: TSC/2005/444 refers)**

Following a request from Councillor Robinson, it was

RESOLVED:- That, the Client Manager forward Councillor Robinson a copy of the correspondence in respect of the above matter.

PLANNING

**SCHEDULE OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS
DATED 15 DECEMBER 2005**

**2005/705 : DEFERRED PLANNING APPLICATION NOS: Y/2005/0164/A
& Y/2005/0184/F - THE RAMADA HOTEL, MILLTOWN ROAD,
SHAWSBRIDGE**

The Planning Service Officer informed Members that the plans requested had now been received and these applications were now included for sanction by Members.

Noted.

**2005/706 : DEFERRED PLANNING APPLICATION NO: Y/2005/0240/F –
CHANGE OF USE FROM POST OFFICE TO GAMING MACHINE ARCADE
AT 1 CHURCH ROAD, DUNDONALD**

Councillor Robinson indicated that the Planning Officer had sent out a number of letters on behalf of the Council, and although acknowledgements had been received from the Planning Service, formal responses were still outstanding.

The Planning Officer concurred that the Planning Service had been asked to justify the scheme under DCAN 1 at the time of the site visit, and an explanation had not been received to date.

The Planning Service Officer responded that he felt that the issues raised within the correspondence had been dealt with at the site meeting held in relation to the proposal, but he would defer the matter until formal responses to the letters, had been received by the Council.

Alderman Mrs Robinson stated that the decision to approve this application was a travesty, as it did not fulfil the Planning Service's own criteria and guidelines. She went on to say that this change of use would create a blight on the landscape and she was concerned that the nature of this establishment would threaten the community and encourage young children to commence a lifelong addiction to gambling.

The Planning Service Officer reiterated that the purpose of the site visit had given everyone an opportunity to air their concerns, and his Department had to determine this application based only on its planning merits.

Although the Alderman appreciated that the Planning Service did not consider moral issues as part of their criteria, she listed the number of churches and schools nearby, especially Tor Bank Special School, as well as its close proximity to a library, and an apartment block, which overlooked the property.

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED:- That, consideration of this planning application be deferred until the Council has received formal responses to the letters sent by the Planning Officer, seeking clarification to a number of issues raised by Members.

2005/707 : DEFERRED PLANNING APPLICATION NO: Y/2005/0374/F – CHANGE OF USE TO BOOKMAKING OFFICE – 78 OLD MILLTOWN ROAD, BALLYNAVALLY, BELFAST

Councillor Chambers wished to record her opposition to this scheme.

In light of the scale of opposition to the proposal, Councillor White proposed that it be referred to the Management Board, which was seconded by Councillor Spratt.

Councillor Ramsey expressed his concern in relation to the extra traffic that would be generated from the scheme and referred to the limited car parking facilities available.

The Planning Service Officer outlined that the Roads Service had been in attendance at the site visit and the PSNI had been consulted, however the Planning Service had no basis to withhold consent of the application.

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED:- That, this planning application be referred to the Management Board, and the Planning Officer be instructed to represent the Council when it is being considered by the Board.

2005/708 : ERECTION OF 2 NO. DETACHED DWELLINGS & 2 NO. PAIRS OF SEMI-DETACHED DWELLINGS AT 104,106 & 108 COMBER ROAD, DUNDONALD

In response to a query from Councillor White relating to the background to the scheme, the Planning Service Officer informed Members that the original application had been refused and appealed, but dismissed, however it had since been amended and modified to 6 dwellings.

Councillor White, upon inspection of the plans, was satisfied with the amended proposed scheme.

Noted.

2005/709 : APPLICATION NO: Y/2004/0373/F – ERECTION OF 5 NO. 3-STOREY DETACHED HOUSES (AMENDED PLANS) AT 183 SAINTFIELD ROAD, BALLYLENAGHAN

Councillor Duncan stated that she felt that Members should have a site visit to see the location of the proposal at first hand, in light of the steep fall in ground, and the concerns that this development, should it proceed, would detrimentally affect residents in Woodbrea Drive.

She reported that there were several issues to be addressed, such as increased surface water run-off, destabilization of foundations, restriction in light, and sewerage concerns.

The Planning Service Officer responded that although there were layout and privacy issues, the scheme did not require a sewerage pumping station.

RESOLVED:- That, consideration of this planning application be deferred for one month to enable a Special Planning Committee meeting to be held at a date and time to be agreed with the Chairman of the Planning Committee, in liaison with Councillor Duncan.

2005/710 : APPLICATION NO: Y/2004/0585/F – ERECTION OF RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT COMPRISING 10 NO. HOUSES INCLUDING DOMESTIC GARAGING (AMENDED LAYOUT) – 83A GILNAHIRK ROAD

Councillor Long expressed concerns about this scheme with regard to over-intensification of the site and associated traffic problems. He informed

Members that trees had been cut down over a year ago in advance of the development.

Councillor Chambers referred to the right of way issue and stated that the applicant had been informed of the need to apply for a Path Diversion Order, which will be a condition of planning consent.

The Planning Service Officer informed Members that the site had previously been granted permission for 13 apartments. He concurred that the right of way issue had to be addressed under different legislation, but the current scheme retained the right of way proposal.

He added that any enforcement action would be subject to sanction through the Countryside Officer, as the matter of right of way was governed under separate legislation.

Councillor Henderson felt that there was a need to meet with the Department to determine the actual layout of the scheme and reveal the parking arrangements in detail.

RESOLVED:- That, consideration of this planning application be deferred for one month to enable a Special Planning Committee meeting to be held, date and time to be arranged with the Chairman of the Planning Committee, in liaison with Councillor Long.

2005/711 : APPLICATION NO: Y/2005/0040/F – PROPOSAL TO BUILD 2 DETACHED AND 1 PAIR OF SEMI-DETACHED DWELLINGS – EXISTING DWELLING TO BE DEMOLISHED (AMENDED LAYOUT) AT 20 BALLYKEEL ROAD, MONEYREAGH

Councillor Spratt raised his concerns in relation to the narrow shape of the site in question and asked if the Planning Service Officer could outline the nature of the objections received.

The Planning Service Officer responded that there had been objections in relation to the erection of 2-storey dwellings in an area of bungalows, and concerns relating to increased traffic, access, loss of privacy and adequacy of sewerage services.

RESOLVED:- That, consideration of this planning application be deferred to enable a Special Planning Committee meeting to discuss the application in liaison with the Chairman of the Planning Committee and Councillor Spratt.

2005/712 : APPLICATION NO: Y/2005/0304/A – SHOP SIGN AT 1 CHURCH ROAD, DUNDONALD

Following discussion, in which Councillor Jeffers informed Members that he felt that the proposed sign would be regarded as offensive and he intended to photograph it for Members' information, it was

RESOLVED:- That, consideration of this application be deferred to enable an office meeting to take place to discuss the proposal further, at a date and time to be agreed in liaison with the Chairman of the Planning Committee and Councillor Jeffers.

2005/713 : APPLICATION NOS: Y/2005/0289/F & Y/2005/0293/RM – PROPOSAL TO ERECT ONE PAIR OF SEMI-DETACHED DWELLINGS & PROPOSAL TO ERECT TWO-STOREY DETACHED DWELLING AT 57 LENAGHAN PARK, BALLYLENAGHAN

Councillor Chambers requested that the Planning Service issue a tree preservation order at this site to prevent the removal of the existing tree.

The Planning Service Officer responded that there was no merit in obtaining a tree preservation order as the tree was situated on the boundary and the proposal was endeavouring to retain the tree.

He outlined that the 2 proposals submitted were purporting to build on the existing footprint and the nature of the 4 objections received had related to issues regarding overcrowding, increased traffic and loss of character to the existing area.

Councillor Duncan indicated that she had submitted one of the objections and was concerned that this application would set a precedent in the Lenaghan Park area, which would detrimentally affect the character of the area, as well as creating parking difficulties.

She further expressed her concerns that flooding occurred in this vicinity on a regular basis and asked that her comments be taken on board.

Councillor Chambers reiterated that developers had no interest in protecting the environment or retaining existing character and highlighted the fact that any work to the site would damage the roots of the existing tree.

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED:- That, the Planning Officer will write to the Planning Service requesting that they investigate the flooding concerns, and retention of trees.

2005/714 : APPLICATION NO: Y/2005/0467/RM – SITE ADJACENT TO 4 OLD DUNDONALD ROAD, BALLYBEEN – PROVISION OF NEW 2 STOREY DWELLING

In response to a query from Councillor White, the Planning Service Officer informed that the application initially had access issues, but these had now been addressed.

Noted.

2005/715 : APPLICATION NO: Y/2005/0481/O – SITE FOR DWELLING SUITABLE FOR PERSON WITH DISABILITIES BETWEEN 2 & 8 LISDOONAN ROAD, KILLYNURE, CARRYDUFF

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED:- That, the Planning Service will hold their decision on this planning application to enable a meeting to be held between the applicant/agent and the Council's Planning Officer, with either Councillor Robinson or Alderman Mrs Robinson to be in attendance.

2005/716 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM PLANNING OFFICER TO PLANNING SERVICE RE: Y/2005/0240/F - 1 CHURCH ROAD, DUNDONALD (copy previously circulated).

Noted.

2005/717 : CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED RE: Y/2004/0585/F – 83 A GILLNHAIRK ROAD (copy previously circulated).

Noted.

2005/718 : CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED FROM TODD ARCHITECTS RE: Y/2004/0585/F - 83A GILNAHIRK ROAD (copy previously circulated).

Noted.

2005/719 : CORRESPONDENCE RE: Y/2005/0289/F – 57 LENAGHAN PARK (copy previously circulated).

Noted.

2005/720 : WEEKLY LIST OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS FOR THE PERIOD 14 NOVEMBER 2005 TO 5 DECEMBER 2005 (copy previously circulated).

Noted.

2005/721 : APPLICATION NO: Y/2005/0539/O – SITE FOR INPATIENT ADOLESCENT & CHILD MENTAL HEALTH FACILITIES & OUTPATIENTS BUILDING INCORPORATING RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION, TEACHING, RECREATIONAL & OFFICE FACILITIES. ASSOCIATED ROADS, CAR PARKING & OUTDOOR GAMES AREA – FORSTER GREEN HOSPITAL, 110 SAINTFIELD ROAD, BALLYMACONAGHY, BELFAST

RESOLVED:- That, the Planning Service Officer furnish Councillor Chambers with a copy of the plans for the above planning application.

2005/722 : DRAFT LETTER FROM PLANNING OFFICER RE: CONSULTATION ON THE DRAFT PLANNING REFORM (NORTHERN IRELAND) ORDER

Noted.

2005/723 : CONSULTATION PAPER ON THE DRAFT PLANNING (CONTROL OF MAJOR-ACCIDENT HAZARDS) REGULATIONS (NI) 2006

Tabled:- Correspondence received from the Planning Service, dated 16 November 2005 re: Consultation Paper on the draft Planning (Control of Major-Accident Hazards) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2006 (copy letter previously circulated, consultation document available on the Department's website at www.planningni.gov.uk)

Noted.

2005/724 : BELVOIR PARK HOSPITAL, BELFAST – LISTING OF BUILDINGS OF SPECIAL ARCHITECTURAL OR HISTORIC INTEREST

Tabled:- Correspondence received from Environment and Heritage Service, dated 2 December 2005, re: Belvoir Park Hospital, Belfast, Listing of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest (copy previously circulated)

Councillor Chambers welcomed this correspondence and suggested that the Planning Officer prepare a detailed report in response, to be presented at the next Council meeting.

She added that it was her understanding that covenants had been placed on these buildings and she wanted to ensure their retention, especially the Fever Hospital building.

Councillor Henderson indicated that the BMAP team had already informed the Council that this site had been earmarked for redevelopment and there were no preservation orders placed on any of the existing buildings.

The Planning Service Officer commented that, at this stage, planning commitment had not been given and it was possible that a portion of the site could be redeveloped, or the buildings could be used in some other way.

Councillor Mrs Beattie and Councillor Duncan both indicated that the Belvoir Park hospital site contained old churches and a graveyard and asked that the Planning Service be made aware of this fact.

RESOLVED:- That, the Planning Officer liaise with Councillor Chambers, and prepare a detailed report in response to the Environment & Heritage Service's correspondence, which will be circulated at the January meeting of Council.

2005/725 : MESSAGE OF THANKS FROM THE PLANNING SERVICE OFFICER

Mr John McCallum, Planning Service Officer, wished to take this opportunity to thank Members for their best wishes and the get-well received from the Council, in response to his mother's recent illness.

Noted.

ROADS SERVICE

2005/726 : CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED FROM THE ROADS SERVICE, DATED 2 DECEMBER 2005, RE: QUESTIONS ASKED BY COUNCILLORS, FOLLOWING PRESENTATION OF ROADS SERVICES PROGRESS REPORT

Noted.

EDUCATION

2005/727 : MINUTES OF MINUTES OF SOUTH EASTERN EDUCATION & LIBRARY BOARD MINUTES HELD IN NOVEMBER 2005

Noted.

HOUSING

2005/728 : HOME ENERGY CONSERVATION REPORT 2005

Tabled:- Correspondence received from the Northern Ireland Housing Executive, dated 30 November 2005, re: Home Energy Conservation Report 2005

Noted.

FINANCE

2005/729 : ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

RESOLVED : That the Council approve the undernoted payments:

Capital Account (General)	£ 35,805.77
General Account (Salaries)	£419,072.63
General Account (Suppliers)	£581,441.64

2005/730 : MAYOR/DEPUTY MAYOR'S BUSINESS FOR DECEMBER 2005

Noted.

GENERAL

2005/731 : RESPONSE TO CONSULTATION PAPER ON DRAFT PRIORITIES & BUDGET DOCUMENT – RECEIVED FROM QUARRY PRODUCTS ASSOCIATION

Noted.

2005/732 : LETTER OF APPRECIATION FROM THE 2ND BATTALION, THE ROYAL IRISH REGIMENT

Tabled:- correspondence received from 2nd Battalion, The Royal Irish Regiment dated 25 November 2005 re: letter of appreciation (copy previously circulated).

Councillor Henderson proposed that the Mayor be congratulated on bringing the UDR Memorial Tablet to the Council's Civic Offices, which was seconded by Councillor Beattie.

Noted.

2005/733 : GOVERNMENT'S PROPOSALS ON A HOME CHILDCARER APPROVAL SCHEME

Tabled:- Correspondence received from Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety re: Supporting the Cost of Home-based Childcare – The Government's Proposals on a Home Childcarer Approval Scheme (copy letter previously circulated, report available on the Department's website at www.dhsspsni.gov.uk)

RESOLVED:- That, Councillors White, Duncan, Hughes and Alderman Mrs Robinson be furnished with a copy of the proposals.

2005/734 : INVITATION TO ST IGNATIUS PARISH CHURCH

Tabled:- Correspondence received from St Ignatius Parish Church re: Invitation to Service of Nine Lessons and Carols (copy previously circulated)

RESOLVED:- That, Officers be instructed to ring round all Members to enquire if they will be attending the above service and to arrange for the relevant robes to be forwarded to the Parish Church Hall in advance.

2005/735 : THE RATES (CAPITAL VALUES ETC) (NORTHERN IRELAND) ORDER 2005 (copy previously circulated)

Noted.

2005/736 : LETTERS OF CONGRATULATION TO THE COUNCIL AND ITS STAFF IN RELATION TO THE ORGANISATION OF THE FUNERAL OF DR GEORGE BEST

Noted.

2005/737 : ANNUAL REPORT 2004-05 FROM THE ELECTORAL COMMISSION (copy previously circulated).

Noted.

2005/738 : MELFORT DRIVE

Councillor Robinson referred to the need for a cleaning up operation around the proximity of Melfort Drive due to a build up of rubbish. However he felt that this may have already been carried out and sought clarification from the Director of Technical & Environmental Services to ascertain if this was still outstanding.

RESOLVED:- That, the Director of Technical & Environmental Services contact Councillor Robinson to confirm if the area around Melfort Drive has been cleared up by Council officers.

2005/739 : TULLYCARNET RENEWAL PARTNERSHIP BOARD

Councillor Drysdale raised a number of questions in relation to the Tullycarnet Renewal Partnership Board and sought answers from the Council.

At this point, Councillors Jeffers, Robinson and Cochrane wished to declare an interest.

The Chief Executive responded that most of the questions raised should be addressed to an external body or the DRD as the Council was not in a position to give answers.

Councillor White commented that it was his understanding that some progress had been made with the Enler Park site, despite Members not being notified of any meeting that was taking place.

Following a proposal from him, which was seconded by Councillor Drysdale, it was agreed that, following clarification by the Chief Executive that a meeting had taken place that, it be

RESOLVED:- That, if a meeting to discuss the Enler Park Site has already taken place without representation from the Members, the Chief Executive be instructed to write querying why the Council was overlooked and not represented at the afore-mentioned meeting.

2005/740 : FLOODING CONCERNS - PATHWAY AT CARRYDUFF

Councillor Henderson informed Members that the pathway situated between the Carryduff Library and Killynure House had flooded yet again and he asked for assistance from the MP for the area, as no Department wished to assume responsibility for the flooding.

Following a proposal from Alderman Iris Robinson, Members agreed that it be

RESOLVED:- That, Officers arrange for a site visit to the pathway situated between Carryduff library and Killynure House and arrange for Councillors from Castlereagh South, along with the MP for the area to attend. Furthermore, that an invitation to the site meeting be extended to the relevant agencies, i.e. the Rivers Agency, Department of Regional Development etc to enable them to see the path in question and determine responsibility for the flooding.

2005/741 : CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

Councillor Robinson wished to take this opportunity, on behalf of the Members of Castlereagh Borough Council, to wish the staff and Officers of the Council a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

The Chief Executive thanked the Members and passed on the best wishes of the Council Officers for a merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

Noted.

As there was no further business, the meeting concluded at 7.20 p.m.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

MAYOR