

CASTLEREAGH BOROUGH COUNCIL

Minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of Castlereagh Borough Council held, in the Council Chamber, Civic & Administrative Offices, Bradford Court, Upper Galwally, Castlereagh, BT8 6RB on Thursday, 27th January 2005 at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT:-

Councillor Ms J Bunting (in the chair from 8.25 pm)

Alderman M Henderson (until 9.30 pm)
Alderman P Osborne (until 9.45 pm)
Alderman Mrs I Robinson MP MLA
Alderman PD Robinson MP MLA

Councillor J Beattie
Councillor M Copeland (until 9.50 pm)
Councillor D Drysdale (in the chair until 8.25 pm)
Councillor Mrs S Duncan
Councillor F Gallagher
Councillor B Hanvey
Councillor Miss R Hughes MBE (until 9.35 pm)
Councillor M Long
Councillor J Norris
Councillor M Robinson MLA
Councillor T Sandford (until 9.45 pm)
Councillor Miss V Stevenson (from 7.40 pm)
Councillor J White

IN ATTENDANCE:-

Chief Executive, Director of Finance & Leisure Services, Director of Administration & Community Services, Director of Technical & Environmental Services, Planning Officer, Planning Service Officer and Assistant Members' Services Officer

APOLOGIES:-

Apologies were recorded on behalf of the Mayor, who would be arriving late to the meeting, Alderman Hall, and Councillors Rice and McBurney.

2005/08 : OPENING OF MEETING

The Reverend Greenfield opened the meeting with a prayer.

Noted.

2005/09 : SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

Councillor Copeland requested approval for a suspension of standing orders to raise an item for Members' attention.

RESOLVED:- That, the Members agree for a suspension of standing orders in order that Councillor Copeland may bring an item forward for Members' attention.

2005/10 : 60th ANNIVERSARY OF THE LIBERATION OF AUSCHWITZ CONCENTRATION CAMP

Councillor Copeland referred Members to the 60th Anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz Concentration Camp and asked that Members and Officers observe a one-minute's silence. Furthermore, that the Members agree to a letter of condolence to be forwarded from the Mayor's Office, on behalf of the Council, to the Rabbi of Castlereagh.

RESOLVED:- That,

- (a) Members agree to observe a one minute's silence in recognition of the 60th Anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz Concentration Camp, and. furthermore
- (b) That a letter of recognition of this 60th Anniversary be forwarded to the Rabbi of Castlereagh from the Mayor's Office, on behalf of the Council.

2005/11 : RECENT DEATH OF GILMORE ANDREWS

Councillor Drysdale referred to the recent passing of Gilmore Andrews, a former Alderman and Mayor of the Council. In view of his past service with the Council and community work within the Borough, Councillor Duncan proposed that Members observe a one-minute's silence as a mark of respect. This proposal was seconded by Councillor Drysdale.

Aldermen PD Robinson and Henderson spoke, in turn, of Mr Andrews' longstanding service with the Council and their appreciation of his life, honesty and loyalty, coupled with his tireless community service within Castlereagh.

The Alderman then asked Officers to ensure that Members are made aware of any former Councillors who are suffering from ill health, or who pass away, as he commented that he would have liked to attend Mr Andrews' funeral, but had been unaware of his death.

The Chief Executive responded that an e-mail had been sent to Council Members and Staff immediately upon notification of Mr Andrews' death, but he would ensure in future that Members were made aware of such information.

RESOLVED:- That,

- (a) Members agreed to observe a one-minute's silence in respect of Mr Gilmore Andrews and in recognition of his Council service as a former Alderman and Mayor, and his community service within Castlereagh.
- (b) That, a letter of condolence be forwarded to the family of Mr Gilmore Andrews from the Mayor's Office, on behalf of the Members.
- (c) That, Officers ensure that Members are informed immediately upon Council notification of the ill health, or bereavement of any former Members.

2005/12 : MINUTES

RESOLVED:- That,

- (a) The Minutes of the following meetings be accepted as a true record:
 - Council Meeting of 16th December 2004
 - Special Planning Meetings of 10th, 20th, 21st December 2004 and 7th January 2005
 - Civic Committee Meeting of 10th January 2005
 - Staff & Office Accommodation Committee Meetings of 13th December and 10th January 2005
 - Administration & Community Services Committee Meetings of 13th December and 10th January 2005.
 - Finance & Leisure Services Committee meeting of 20th January 2005
 - Leisure Park Board Meeting of 20th December 2004 (for information only).
- (b) The Minutes of the following meeting be accepted as a true record, subject to the following amendments:
 - Special Council Meeting of 17th January 2005
The content of the resolution of 2005/01 be amended to give a clearer intention that any change of use requires Council approval.
 - Special Council Meeting of 20th January 2005
Councillor Long is added to the list of attendances
 - Technical & Environmental Services Committee Meeting of 4th January 2005

Amend Minute No: T&ESC/2005/43 to delete the sentence commencing “Mr Hobson...”.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

2005/13 : SALE OF LAND

Minute Ref No: 2005/01 refers

Members referred to their request for the resolution of the above minute to be amended to make the intention clearer that any change of use would require Council approval.

The Chief Executive commented that the lease already had restrictive clauses in place and would not be signed until next week. However, he would speak to the Council’s Solicitors to ensure that Members’ comments were taken on board, and the clarity of the wording within the lease was checked.

Alderman PD Robinson indicated that there was an issue to allow the developer to access the land expeditiously via operation of a licence, as opposed to a leasing arrangement. Furthermore, he referred to an ipso facto whereby the developer should be allowed six month’s initial rent-free period, or from the date he starts operating applicable to the land he would be leasing for the provision of additional car parking spaces.

The Chief Executive confirmed that he had only received confirmation this afternoon that the bank would agree to finance this arrangement.

At this point, Alderman PD Robinson outlined the number of very exciting developments proposed for the Leisure Park, including the forthcoming American Style Golf facility, a multi screen cinema and a number of food and entertainment based units.

2005/14 : BRIEFING ON THE RECENT VISIT TO VALENCIA AS PART OF THE COMET EXCHANGE VISIT - CONNECT

Following a proposal from Councillor Beattie, which was seconded by Councillor Copeland, it was

RESOLVED:- that, Councillor Beattie and Alderman Henderson be authorised to represent the Council on the forthcoming Intereg Project.

2005/15 : DOG FOULING – DAVARR AVENUE, BALLYBEEN

Alderman Mrs Robinson stated that she had been contacted by a number of residents regarding dog fouling in the vicinity of Davarr Avenue, and Members agreed that it be

RESOLVED:- That, Officers arrange for the provision of dog fouling prohibitive signs to be displayed on the green area at Davarr Avenue and several dog litter receptacles to be situated around the vicinity.

2005/16 : PRESENTATION BY REPRESENTATIVES FROM TESCO'S - RE: DEVELOPMENT OF STORE IN NEWTOWNBRED A

The Deputy Mayor welcomed Ms Gwyneth Cockcroft and Mr Alwyn Riddell from Tesco's, to tonight's meeting.

Ms Cockcroft commenced her presentation by making reference to Tesco's policy to carry out a consultation exercise, following the submission of a planning application. However, although approval had been granted, there had been an outstanding roads issue, and Tesco's had since submitted an application for a new roads system.

Mr Riddell circulated an indicative plan, and drew Members' attention to the proposed access into the site, which would require traffic lights sited on the main Belvoir Road. Furthermore, Tesco's had been instructed, as a stipulation of planning permission, to set aside £150,000 as a contingency sum for traffic measures, to include traffic calming and public transport.

Members expressed their concerns with regard to traffic congestion and "rat running" along the Newtownbreda Road, as this would be the only access and egress to the Tesco site for both customers and service vehicles and its potential to create a build up of traffic flowing back on to the dual carriageway.

However, Mr Riddell responded that Roads Service had been satisfied with the Road Traffic Assessment that had been carried out in respect of the outline application and reiterated that it was Tesco's intention to draw as much traffic as possible from the Dual Carriageway.

Councillor Stevenson entered the meeting at 7.40 p.m.

In respect of the £150,000 set aside for traffic measures, Ms Cockcroft indicated this would not be spent until the store was up and running, when any problems would be identified. She referred to the example of the traffic system at the Knocknagoney store and she felt that the proposed system would alleviate some

of the current traffic congestion in the Forestside vicinity. Furthermore, she outlined that customers usually carried out their shopping at different times to peak hour traffic times.

Mr Riddell added that the traffic impact assessment only referred to potential congestion as a result of the Tesco's store and did not address immediate road conditions in the area.

Alderman PD Robinson expressed concern that the village environment of Newtownbreda would alter as a result of this development because of the sole access and egress route. He was unimpressed with the traffic impact assessment findings, and felt that the layout suggested was totally inadequate and that local residents would have a very difficult time ahead, as a result of this scheme.

He then referred to Sainsbury's recent treatment of Dungannon Meats and hoped that Tesco's would have a better policy in place with regard to sourcing local Northern Ireland produce and he requested clarification in relation to the percentage of local produce purchased by Tesco's.

Ms Cockcroft responded that Tesco's sourced as much produce from Northern Ireland as possible, close to £300m. They were committed to local suppliers on an ongoing basis, and even some of Tesco's own brands were prepared using local produce. However, she felt that it was important to educate customers of the need to support Northern Ireland suppliers and purchase more local produce.

Alderman Osborne concurred with Alderman PD Robinson's comments, and he asked if Tesco's were purporting to erect a petrol station at this site, in light of the congestion caused by the Sainsbury's Petrol Station.

Ms Cockcroft replied that a petrol station was not envisaged in the near future, but she commented that the petrol station at Knocknagoney only generated light volumes of traffic.

Councillor Ms Bunting entered the meeting at 7.50 p.m.

Alderman PD Robinson felt that these two sites were not comparable, as the access routes were completely different and Ms Cockcroft's comments were therefore unsubstantiated.

Councillor Mrs Duncan enquired about the potential costs of the traffic measures and asked if Tesco's would pay the surplus, should the amount exceed £150,000.

Mr Riddell responded that the sum of £150,000 had been a preconditioned amount stipulated by the Roads Service, however, in his opinion, Tesco's would try and resolve any issues relating to the store itself.

In response to Councillor Duncan's query regarding the employment of local staff, Ms Cockcroft referred to the recruitment policy operated when recruiting employees for Knocknagoney. She outlined that Tesco's had held several open days in the locality, and a high percentage of local staff had been recruited as a result.

Alderman PD Robinson stated that he felt that the ratepayers of Northern Ireland would suffer, should the amount of £150,000 be an insufficient amount to resolve any outstanding road issues, as a result of this development. He stated that during his time as Minister for Regional Development, he had expressed serious misgivings in relation to the roads structure with regard to this development, which had, at that time, seemed surmountable, and he wondered what had swayed the Roads Service to change its mind on the proposed impacts to traffic.

Councillor Robinson referred to previous comments in relation to public transport provision to the new store, and asked if this would impinge on the original bus routes.

Mr Riddell explained that this issue had been a condition of planning permission, and discussions on the extent of the provision were still being discussed.

In response to a request from Councillor Mrs Duncan in relation to the importance of waste management, Ms Cockcroft confirmed that Tesco's had a strong recycling policy in place.

At this stage, Members thanked the two Tesco's representatives for their informative presentation.

PLANNING

SCHEDULE OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS DATED 27TH JANUARY 2005

DEFERRED APPLICATIONS

2005/17 : DEFERRED PLANNING APPLICATION NO: Y/2004/0258/O – SITE FOR RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT (FURTHER INFORMATION) AT 18 OLD DUNDONALD ROAD, BALLYBEEN, DUNDONALD

Alderman Mrs Robinson expressed concern at this proposal, in particular, its potential to set a precedent in the area for apartment dwellings.

Following a request from Alderman Mrs Robinson, it was

RESOLVED:- That, consideration of this planning application be deferred for one month to enable the Planning Service to make the concept plans available for Members of the Council prior to the date of the next Planning meeting.

**2005/18 : DEFERRED PLANNING APPLICATION NO: Y/2004/0264/O –
ERECTION OF ONE AND A HALF STOREY SIDE EXTENSION AND
IMPROVEMENTS TO EXISTING DWELLING AT 16 MONLOUGH ROAD,
MONEYREAGH**

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

**2005/19 : DEFERRED PLANNING APPLICATION NO: Y/2004/0278/F –
ERECTION OF RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT CONSISTING OF 14 NO.
DWELLINGS WITH GARAGES AT 37 QUEENSFOR PARK SOUTH,
CARRYDUFF**

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED:- That, consideration of this planning application be deferred for one month to enable the Planning Officer to write to the Planning Service seeking clarification of their determination of the application and an assurance that the flooding and drainage implications at the site had been taken into consideration in consultation with the relevant agencies.

**2005/20 : DEFERRED PLANNING APPLICATION NO: Y/2004/0361/CD –
REDEVELOPMENT OF EXISTING WORKS AT MONEYREAGH WASTE
TREATMENT WORKS, HILLSBOROUGH ROAD, MONEYREAGH**

Councillor Beattie referred to a recent press article in relation to inadequate sewerage in Moneyreagh, which would impact on future development in the area.

The Planning Officer responded that the site had merely been identified as suitable for development within BMAP and would still be subject to various assessments by the relevant agencies.

Noted.

NEW APPLICATIONS

2005/21 : PLANNING APPLICATION NO: Y/2002/0477/F – CHANGE OF USE OF FIRST FLOOR STORES TO PROVIDE LICENSED RESTAURANT PLUS ALTERATIONS TO EXISTING DOORWAYS AT 963-969 UPPER NEWTOWNARDS ROAD, DUNDONALD (FIRST FLOOR)

The Planning Service Officer reported that this planning application had now been withdrawn.

Noted.

2005/22 : PLANNING APPLICATION NO: Y/2003/0704/F – LANDS AT UPPER NEWTOWNARDS ROAD, CARROWREAGH ROAD, DUNDONALD – RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT CONSISTING OF 108 NO. HOUSES & GARAGES AND ASSOCIATED SITEWORKS (ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/PLANS)

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED:- That, consideration of this planning application be deferred to enable a site visit to be held at a date and time to be agreed with the Chairman of the Planning Committee, in liaison with Alderman Mrs Robinson.

2005/23 : PLANNING APPLICATION NO: Y/2004/0160/F – ERECTION OF APARTMENT DEVELOPMENT COMPRISING 110 NO. UNITS IN 6 NO. BLOCKS (REDUCED PROPOSAL) AT QUARRY CORNER, CORNER OF UPPER NEWTOWNARDS ROAD & OLD MILL HEIGHTS, DUNDONALD

Alderman Osborne asked if consideration of this planning application could be deferred to enable a site visit to be held.

Councillor Long commented that any development at this site would require improvements to the infrastructure, and would also create detrimental and visual impacts to existing residents.

Alderman PD Robinson referred to Policy Statement: PPS7 relating to new build in an area in context to the type of buildings already in existence. He identified a number of single storey dwellings currently located at this site, in contravention of the large apartment style of this proposal.

The Planning Service Officer concurred that although there was a very obvious difference in storey levels, the Planning Service had to consider each individual case on its merits and their recommendation reflected the site's separation from existing dwellings and its close proximity to the carriageway.

Alderman PD Robinson expressed his dissatisfaction at the Officer's response as, in his view, Planning Service policy as stated within PPS7 had not being applied in this instance.

Councillor Drysdale commented that it was his understanding that there was a sewerage or water drainage system located underneath the original site of the Quarry Inn and suggested that the truth of this matter be confirmed.

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED:- That,

(a) Consideration of this planning application be deferred for one month to enable a site visit to be arranged at a date and time to be agreed with the Chairman of the Planning Committee, in liaison with Alderman Osborne.

(b) The Planning Service Officer to ascertain if there is a water drainage or sewerage plant located underneath the original Quarry Inn site prior to the site visit.

2005/24 : APPLICATION NO: Y/2004/0210/F – PART-CHANGE OF USE FROM LIGHT INDUSTRIAL/STORAGE WAREHOUSING TO PROVIDE FACILITIES FOR (A) STORAGE AND TRANSFER OF HAZARDOUS WASTE (B) PROCESSING OF SPECIFIC HAZARDOUS WASTES AND (C) ERECTION OF LABORATORY. RETENTION OF USE FOR OFFICES & STORAGE OF EQUIPMENT – 11 COMBER ROAD, CARRYDUFF

Alderman PD Robinson referred to the wording "specific" outlined in the proposal printed in the Planning Schedule in comparison to the wording "various" outlined in Atlas's Environmental (NI) Ltd letter to be tabled on the agenda. In addition, he asked if there was any limit to the volume of hazardous waste that could be stored at the site.

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED:- That,

(a) Consideration of this planning application be deferred for one month to enable a site visit to be arranged at a date and time to be agreed with the Chairman of the Planning Committee, in liaison with Councillor White.

(b) The Planning Service Officer to have the information regarding to the limits of hazardous waste that can be stored at the site available for the site visit.

- (c) Officers arrange for an Environmental Health Officer to be invited to the site meeting to answer Members' queries.

2005/25 : PLANNING APPLICATION NO: Y/2004/0326/F – RETENTION OF SUNROOM (REMOVAL OF EXISTING OUTBUILDING & GARAGE) AT 7 GRAY'S PARK AVENUE, BALLYNAVALLY, BELFAST

The Planning Service Officer informed Members that two letters of objection had been received in respect of this application.

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

2005/26 : PLANNING APPLICATION NO: Y/2004/0255/O – RETAIN DWELLING WITHOUT COMPLIANCE WITH CONDITION 2 OF PLANNING PERMISSION Y 1985/0112 (OCCUPANCY CONDITION) AT 56 GREENGRAVES ROAD, DUNDONALD

Councillor White referred to Planning Application No: Y/2004/0123/F on the planning schedule and asked why this proposal had been refused, whereas the Greengraves Road application had been approved.

The Planning Service Officer indicated that the Planning Service had requested further information from the applicant regarding Application No: Y/2004/0123/F, but this had not been received and they were therefore not in a position to approve the application.

Noted.

2005/27 : PLANNING APPLICATION NO: Y/2004/0436/F – ERECTION OF TWO STOREY REAR EXTENSION TO DWELLING AT 12 LISDOONAN ROAD, KILLYNURE, CARRYDUFF

RESOLVED:- That, consideration of this planning application be deferred to enable a site visit to be held at a date and time to be agreed with the Chairman of the Planning Committee, in liaison with Alderman PD Robinson.

2005/28 : PLANNING APPLICATION NO: Y/2004/0557/F – DEMOLITION OF EXISTING BUILDING & ERECTION OF GROUND FLOOR RETAIL PHARMACY, LOWER GROUND FLOOR, CAR PARKING (RETENTION OF

EXISTING PROVISION) AND FIRST FLOOR ASSOCIATED STORES & STAFF FACILITIES AT 59 SAINTFIELD ROAD, BALLYLENAGHAN

Councillor Duncan welcomed the Planning Service's decision to approve this application and hoped that the Post Office facility would be retained by the developer.

Noted.

2005/29 : PLANNING APPLICATION NO: Y/2004/0683/F – 2 MOUNT REGAN AVENUE - ERECTION OF NEW DETACHED GARAGE, 900MM HIGH BRICK FACED WALL TO BOUNDARY OF DWELLING & 1800MM HIGH PARTY WALL ALONG THE NORTHERN BOUNDARY OF NO. 28 MOUNT REGAN ROAD

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

2005/30 : PROPOSAL AT BENNAN PARK/ARDNOE AVENUE

In response to a query from Alderman Mrs Robinson, the Planning Service Officer referred to the implications of BMAP, and outlined that although these proposals could have a bearing on any future development, BMAP was at draft stage and had not yet been finalised.

Alderman PD Robinson stated that it was his view that planning applications had to be determined in line with current planning policy and he referred to a recent court case in which the Planning Service had lost a case in which they had tried to base their judgement on a hypothetical draft plan.

The Planning Service Officer replied that in this instance, BMAP would support the developer's position, and the Planning Service therefore had to regard BMAP when making its recommendations.

The Planning Officer referred to discussion on site and stated that, irrespective of BMAP, the Housing Association were considering revising their plans to address the Planning Service's concerns. He then asked if the Housing Association had put forward any revised plans in relation to the development.

The Planning Service Officer replied that the Department had met with the agents regarding a modification of the layout and further information was awaited.

Noted.

2005/31 : WEEKLY LIST OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS FOR THE PERIOD 7TH DECEMBER 2004 TO 17TH JANUARY 2005 (copy previously circulated).

Noted.

2005/32 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE PLANNING SERVICE DATED 6TH JANUARY 2005 RE: LANDS ADJACENT AND EAST OF ALVESTON DRIVE, KILLYNURE ROAD, CARRYDUFF (copy previously circulated).

Noted.

2005/33 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE PLANNING SERVICE DATED 11TH JANUARY 2005 RE: LANDS SOUTH OF CASTLEREAGH COLLEGE, MONTGOMERY ROAD, BELFAST (copy previously circulated).

Alderman PD Robinson expressed concern that, in lodging this appeal under Article 33 of the Planning (NI) Order 1991, the developer had effectively bypassed the Council with regard to Members' comments on the proposal. However, he commented that the residents of Montgomery Road would prefer a residential development, as opposed to light industrial usage at the site, and thereby supported the proposal.

Councillor White added his support to the development.

Following a request from Councillor Long, it was

RESOLVED:- That the Planning Service Officer be instructed to forward Councillor Long with details of the aforementioned proposal in relation to its date of submission and the density concentration of the scheme.

2005/34 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM DUNDONALD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH DATED 17TH AUGUST 2002 PLANNING APPLICATIONS IN RESPECT OF RE: 963-969 AND 963 UPPER NEWTOWNARDS ROAD (copy previously circulated).

Noted.

2005/35 : PROPOSED RADIO BASE STATION FOR 02 UK LTD AT DRD WATER SERVICE MILLMOUNT PUMPING STATION, MILLMOUNT ROAD

Tabled:- Correspondence from Taylor Patterson, Surveyors dated 10th January 2005, re: Proposed Radio Base Station for O2 Ltd, at DRD Water Service, Millmount Pumping Station, Millmount Road, Dundonald (Standing Stone CSR34516) (copy previously circulated).

The Planning Officer informed Members that this letter merely formed part of the telecommunications industry's consultation process prior to planning application submission, and the Council would have an opportunity to make comment once it appeared on the Planning Schedule.

Following comments from Alderman Mrs Robinson, it was

RESOLVED:- That, the Planning Officer be authorised to write to Taylor Patterson outlining the Council's usual response with regard to its opposition of telecommunications installations in the Borough.

Furthermore, that he make reference to the approved Millmount Village proposals to create a high density development of residential housing in the Millmount area, and as such, the Council feels that this base station may pose a potential health threat to the estimated large population of residents that will live in close proximity to the installation.

2005/36 : ATLAS ENVIRONMENTAL (NI) LTD – PROPOSED WASTE FACILITIES, COMBER ROAD, CARRYDUFF – PLANNING APPLICATION Y/2004/0210/F

Tabled:- Correspondence from WDR & RT Taggart dated 25th January 2005 regarding the above matter (copy tabled at meeting).

Noted.

ROADS

2005/37 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM ROADS SERVICE DATED 11TH JANUARY 2005 RE: T2 BELFAST-NEWCASTLE TRUNK ROAD ORDER (NI) 2004 (copy previously circulated)

Noted.

2005/38 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM ROADS SERVICE DATED 13TH DECEMBER 2004 RE: QUESTIONS ASKED BY COUNCILLORS FOLLOWING PRESENTATION OF ROADS SERVICE PROGRESS REPORT (copy previously circulated).

Noted.

2005/39 : COMPENSATION CLAIMS ARISING FROM THE ROADS SURFACE DRESSING FAILURE ON GRANSHA ROAD ON 29th JULY 2002

Tabled:- Correspondence from Department for Regional Development dated 20th December 2004 re: the above matter (copy previously circulated).

Alderman Mrs Robinson expressed her disappointment at the Department's response on behalf of those people who had been affected by the surface dressing failure on that occasion.

Noted.

HOUSING

2005/40 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM HOUSING EXECUTIVE, INCLUDING INFORMATION BOOKLET, DATED DECEMBER 2004, RE: HOMELESSNESS (copy previously circulated).

Noted.

2005/41 : REPORT FROM THE BOARD OF THE HOUSING EXECUTIVE HELD ON 15th DECEMBER (copy available at Members' request).

Noted.

HEALTH

2005/42 : HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE INEQUALITIES MONITORING SYSTEM : FIRST UPDATE BULLETIN 2004

Tabled:- Correspondence from Department of Health, Social Services & Public Safety dated 20th December 2004 re: Health and Social Care Inequalities Monitoring System: First Update Bulletin 2004 (copy previously circulated – report available on the website www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/stats&research/pubs.asp).

Noted.

2005/43 : NEW QUALITY STANDARDS FOR RESIDENTIAL FAMILY STANDARDS

Tabled:- Correspondence from Department of Health, Social Services & Public Safety dated November 2004 re: New Quality Standards for Residential Family Standards (copy letter previously circulated, consultation document available on the website www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/econsultation/index.asp).

Noted.

2005/44 : NEW QUALITY STANDARDS FOR DAYCARE CENTRES

Tabled:- Correspondence from Department of Health, Social Services & Public Safety dated November 2004 re: New Quality Standards for Daycare Centres (copy letter previously circulated, consultation document available on the website www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/econsultation/index.asp).

Noted.

2005/45 : NEW QUALITY STANDARDS FOR INDEPENDENT HOSPITALS, HOSPICES & INDEPENDENT CLINICS

Tabled: - Correspondence from Department of Health, Social Services & Public Safety dated November 2004 re: New Quality Standards for Independent Health Care, including Independent Hospitals, Hospices & Independent Clinics (copy letter previously circulated, consultation document available on the website www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/econsultation/index.asp)

Noted.

2005/46 : “CHANGING TIMES – IMPROVING CARE : A RECORD OF ACHIEVEMENT BY LOCAL HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE GROUPS”

Tabled:- Publication from Eastern Health & Social Services Board entitled “Changing Times – Improving Care : A record of achievement by Local Health and Social Care Groups” (copy available at Members’ request).

Noted.

2005/47 : JUSTICE FOR ASBESTOS VICTIMS

Tabled:- Correspondence from Down District Council dated 22nd December 2004 re: Justice for asbestos victims (copy previously circulated).

Noted.

2005/48 : NOTICE OF MOTION

Proposed by Alderman Mrs I Robinson MP MLA:-
Seconded by Councillor J Norris

“This Council calls upon the South Eastern Education & Library Board to reconsider their decision to close Cabra Towers”

Alderman Mrs Robinson outlined the historical background to Cabra Towers for Members' information and listed the facilities provided and its impacts, from an environmental and educational perspective, on those children previously visiting the facility. She felt that the loss of Cabra Towers would have a significant impact on future school children who would be unable to take advantage of the centre's provisions, nor avail of the places of interest nearby the facility.

Councillor Norris commented that, as a member of the SEELB Board, he would fight to keep Cabra Towers open, and he felt that the current Chief Executive of the SEELB should be held responsible for many of the monetary problems recently experienced.

Each of the Parties fully supported the Alderman's Notice of Motion and she asked that the Council write to the Chairmen of the relevant agencies urging the SEELB to change its opinion to close Cabra Towers.

Councillor Hanvey further suggested that the Chief Executive write to the other 25 Councils asking for their support for this Notice of Motion.

RESOLVED:- That,

- (a) The Chief Executive be authorised to write to the various Chairmen of the relevant agencies, including the Chairman of the SEELB, and Chairman of the Board of Governors urging that the Council is unanimously opposed to the closure of Cabra Towers and asking that they reconsider their decision.
- (b) The Chief Executive be further instructed to write to the other 25 Councils asking that they support the Council's Notice of Motion.

FINANCE

2005/49 : ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

RESOLVED:- That, the Council approve the undernoted payments:

Capital Account (General)	:	£201,925.19
General Account (Salaries)	:	£361,281.10
General Account (Suppliers)	:	£886,600.43

2005/50 : MAYOR/DEPUTY MAYOR'S BUSINESS FOR JANUARY 2005

Noted.

GENERAL

2005/51 : EQUALITY IMPACT ASESMENT OF FISHERIES: POLICY, ENFORCEMENT, AQUACULTURE, FISH HEALTH & HEALTH AND GRANTS ADMINISTRATION

Tabled:- Correspondence from Department of Agriculture & Rural Development dated 7th January 2005 re: Equality Impact Assessment of Fisheries: Policy, Enforcement, Aquaculture, Fish Health and Grants Administration (copy letter previously circulated, consultation document available on the website www.dardni.gov.uk/consultation).

Noted.

2005/52 : CABINET OFFICE CONSULTATION ON REGULATIONS AND GUIDANCE UNDER PART 1 OF THE CIVIL CONTINGENCIES ACT

Tabled:- Correspondence from the Central Emergency Planning Unit dated 9th December 2004 re: Cabinet Office Consultation on Regulations and Guidance Under Part 1 Of The Civil Contingencies Act (copy previously circulated)

Noted.

2005/53 : THE GOVERNMENT'S RESPONSE TO THE ELECTORAL COMMISSION'S REPORTS

Tabled:- Correspondence from the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister dated 9th December 2004 re: The Government's Response to the Electoral Commission's Reports, 'Voting for change' and 'Delivering Democracy' (copy previously circulated, documents available on the website as outlined in the correspondence).

Noted.

2005/54 : LOCAL GOVERNMENT DISTRICT COUNCIL ELECTIONS IN NORTHERN IRELAND

Tabled:- Correspondence from the Electoral Office for Northern Ireland dated January 2005 re: Local Government District Council Elections in Northern Ireland 2005 (copy previously circulated).

The Chief Executive drew Members' attention to the fact that the Electoral Office were planning to organise a series of mobile sites at which electors can apply for an Electoral Identity Card and have their photograph taken at the same time.

They had written to the Council seeking suggestions for locations where mobile sites could be set up within the Borough in anticipation of the local elections.

Following lengthy discussion, it was

RESOLVED:- That,

- (a) The Chief Executive be authorised to write to the Electoral Office for Northern Ireland offering the Council's community centres/activity centres for the location of mobile sites. However, should the Electoral Office only require a certain amount of sites within the Borough, that they concentrate these on the Borough's largest estates.
- (b) That the Chief Executive, in his letter, highlights the Council's concerns with regard to the following issues, namely:-
 - The need to continue the practice of door-to-door canvassing, especially during the evenings
 - The requirement for Electoral Staff to consider an alternative system to the current antiquated perforation system, which leads to a considerable number of spoilt votes, through no fault of the voter
 - Education of the public to ensure they know the correct procedures for voting to reduce the number of spoilt votes
 - The requirement to introduce "on the spot" electoral registration
 - The need to introduce a more intensive "postal voting" system to accommodate those elderly constituents who are unable to access polling stations.

2005/55 : EUROPEAN PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS

Tabled:- Correspondence from the Electoral Commission dated 20th December 2004 re: European Parliamentary Elections (executive summary previously circulated, full report available on the website www.electoralcommission.org.uk).

Noted.

2005/56 : CONTINUOUS ENFORCEMENT OF MOTOR INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

Tabled:- Correspondence from Department of Transport dated 30th November 2004 re: Continuous Enforcement of Motor Insurance Requirements from the Record (copy previously circulated).

Noted.

2005/57 : WATER REFORM NORTHERN IRELAND

Tabled:- Correspondence from Department for Regional Development dated 9th December 2004 re: Water Reform Northern Ireland (copy previously circulated).

Noted.

2005/58 : PROPOSED CUTS TO DCAL FUNDING OF THE NORTHERN IRELAND EVENTS COMPANY

Tabled:- Correspondence from Department of Culture, Arts & Leisure dated 22nd December 2004 re: Proposed cuts to DCAL funding of the Northern Ireland Events Company (copy previously circulated).

Councillor Long welcomed that the final budget outcome had been increased from those figures outlined in the Draft Budget, but he felt that there could be an even greater increase in the amount of funding made available.

Noted.

2005/59 : NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILLORS RE: ENERGY & TRANSPORT CONFERENCE IN GLASGOW ON 25TH, 26TH, AND 27TH FEBRUARY 2005

RESOLVED:- That, Councillor Beattie and Alderman Henderson be authorised, as the Council's NAC representatives, to attend the above mentioned conference in Glasgow on 25th – 27th February 2005.

2005/60 : DEVELOPING NORTHERN IRELAND'S INFRASTRUCTURE CONFERENCE IN THE STORMONT HOTEL

Tabled:- Correspondence from bmf business services dated 20th December 2004 re: Developing Northern Ireland's Infrastructure Conference in the Stormont Hotel on 3rd February 2005 (copy previously circulated).

Noted.

2005/61 : DISCUSSION ON FUTURE OF SEACAT'S BELFAST/TROON ROUTE

Tabled:- Correspondence from sea containers Irish Sea operations dated 5th January 2005 re: Discussions on future of SeaCat's Belfast/Troon route (copy previously circulated).

Noted.

2005/62 : DRAFT STRATEGY FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE IN NORTHERN IRELAND

Tabled:- Consultation document from the Office of the Minister and Deputy First Minister re: draft strategy for Children and Young People in Northern Ireland (document available at Members' request).

Noted.

2005/63 : DRAFT INVESTMENT STRATEGY FOR NORTHERN IRELAND

Tabled:- Correspondence from the Office of the First Minister and Deputy First Minister dated 23rd December re: Draft Investment Strategy for Northern Ireland (copy previously circulated).

RESOLVED:- That, Councillor Beattie be authorised to attend the Consultation Event in relation to the Draft Investment Strategy for Northern Ireland at Belfast Castle on Friday, 4th February 2005.

REPORTS AND ANNUAL REPORTS

2005/64 : ELECTORAL COMMISSION – ANNUAL REPORT 2003-2004

Tabled:- Executive summary previously circulated, full report available at Members' request.

Noted.

2005/65 : HOUSING EXECUTIVE – HOME ENERGY CONSERVATION REPORT 2004

Tabled:- copy letter previously circulated, report available at Members' request.

Noted.

2005/66 : 14TH ANNUAL REPORT FROM THE COMMUNITY RELATIONS COUNCIL (copy report available at Members' request).

Noted.

2005/67 : FORENSIC SCIENCE NI - RE: PROPOSED SITES FOR NEW SCIENCE LABORATORY

Tabled:- Correspondence from Forensic Science NI dated January 2005 re: Hydebank Lower Field as one of the proposed sites for the new science laboratory (copy previously circulated).

RESOLVED:- That, the Chief Executive be instructed to reply to Forensic Science NI stating that the Council have no objections to the proposed siting of the new Forsensic Science Laboratory at Hydebank Lower Field.

2005/68 : CONSULTATION PROCESS – THE DISTRICT POLICING PARTNERSHIPS (NI) ORDER 2005

Following discussion on the effects of local government elections on membership of the District Policing Partnership, it was

RESOLVED:- That, the Chief Executive be instructed to seek clarification with regard to the District Policing Partnership Board appointments in respect of those Members who are unelected following the forthcoming local government election.

2005/69 : HOUSING POLICY REVIEW GROUP

Tabled:- Correspondence from the Housing Policy Review Group dated January 2005 re: Consultation document “Promoting the Social inclusion of Homeless People – Addressing the Causes and Effects of Homelessness in Northern Ireland (copy previously circulated).

Noted.

2005/70 : BBC NORTHERN – BBC CONNECTS... WITH CASTLEREAGH EVENT ON MONDAY, 7TH MARCH 2005

Tabled:- letter from BBC NI regarding the above matter, dated 26th January 2005 (copy previously circulated)

RESOLVED:- That, the Council agrees to the use of the Function Suite for the “BBC Connects... with Castlereagh” programme to host the event on Monday, 7th March 2005 at 7.00 p.m., normal rates apply.

2005/71 : NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILLORS - SPECIAL MEETING OF THE REVIEW OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION, SEAGOE HOTEL – WEDNESDAY, 9TH FEBRUARY 2005

RESOLVED:- That, the Council’s two representatives, Councillor Beattie and Alderman Henderson be permitted to attend the above Special Meeting on the 9th February 2005.

2005/72 : DUNGOYNE U16'S –V- SOPYC U16'S APPEAL

Councillor Drysdale referred to the above matter and read out his written response to Mr Cassidy, South Belfast Boys League. He expressed his delight that Dungoyne Boys Football Club had now been reinstated into the League following their appeal and, as part of the stipulations of the Appeal, he withdrew his request for the resignation of Mr Des Brennan as Chairman of the South Belfast Football League from 19th January 2005.

Furthermore, he confirmed that there had been no pitch restrictions placed on the South Belfast Boys League that he, or Council Officers, were aware of, and had to question the accuracy of the newspaper article on pitch provision. He reiterated that SBBL had continued to have full use of all football pitches they had requested during the three-month period since the enquiry commenced, in compliance with Equality legislation. Therefore, in compliance with the Appeal Committee request, he wished to confirm that no restriction will apply and in doing so, he acknowledged that he had carried out the wishes of the South Belfast Boys League.

RESOLVED:- That, Officers would arrange for a copy of this minute to be forwarded to Mr J Cassidy, Honorary Secretary of the South Belfast Boys League to confirm that Councillor Drysdale had complied with the stipulation of the Appeals Committee.

2005/73 : BEST SELLERS COLLECTIVE MUSIC GROUP

Members referred to the Community Foundation for Northern Ireland award recently presented to Best Sellers Collective Music Group, Ballybeen and it was

RESOLVED:- That, the Mayor send a letter of congratulations to Best Sellers Collective Music Group from her, on behalf of the Council.

2005/74 : PRESENTATION TO MALCOLM BRODIE

Alderman PD Robinson proposed that, in light of the recent UEFA award presented to Malcolm Brodie for his unequalled service to sports journalism, and the fact that he resides within Castlereagh Borough, that the Council should hold a presentation to honour his long standing service in this field.

This proposal was seconded by Councillor White, and fully supported by both Councillors Norris and Long.

RESOLVED:- That, the Officers be instructed to organise a presentation for Malcolm Brodie, in recognition of his recent UEFA award for his unequalled service to sports journalism, and to honour that fact that he is a resident of Castlereagh Borough.

As there was no further business, the meeting concluded at 10.50 p.m.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

MAYOR