

## **CASTLEREAGH BOROUGH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of Castlereagh Borough Council held in the Council Chamber, Castlereagh Borough Council, Civic & Administrative Offices, Bradford Court, Upper Galwally, Castlereagh, BT8 6RB, on Thursday, 28 July 2005, at 7.30 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Councillor T Jeffers  
(in the Chair)

**ALDERMEN:** J Norris MBE  
I Robinson MP MLA (from 8.10 pm until 11.25 pm)  
P D Robinson MP MLA

**IN ATTENDANCE:** A M Beattie  
J Beattie  
J Bunting  
M Chambers  
J Cochrane  
S Duncan  
C Hall  
B Hanvey  
M Long  
A Ramsey  
G Robinson  
J Spratt  
C Tosh  
D Drysdale (until 11.45 pm)

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Chief Executive, Director of Finance & Leisure Services, Director of Technical & Environmental Services, Operational Services Manager, Human Resources Manager, Planning Service Officer, Planning Officer, IT Manager and Assistant Members' Services Officer

**APOLOGIES:** Apologies were received on behalf of Aldermen Mrs G Rice and M Copeland, Councillors Mrs R Hughes MBE, J White and M Henderson

### **2005/380 : OPENING OF MEETING**

Reverend Caldwell opened the meeting with a prayer.

Noted.

At this point in the proceedings, Alderman Peter Robinson requested the suspension of Standing Orders. He offered his condolences to those touched by the London bombings and asked Members to join him in two minutes' silence. Alderman Robinson added that the people of Northern Ireland had faced terror for years and could, therefore, understand how difficult the present time was for the families of those who were killed. He suggested that the Mayor contact the Mayor of London to offer condolences on behalf of this Council.

Councillor Duncan offered condolences on behalf of the Alliance Party, and this was reiterated by Councillors Drysdale and Hanvey on behalf of the UUP and SDLP Parties respectively.

The Mayor thanked staff for making a Book of Condolence available, and he agreed to write to the Mayor of London.

RESOLVED: That the Mayor write to the Mayor of London, offering condolences on behalf of the Council to the families of those killed in the recent London bombs.

#### **2005/381 : MINUTES**

RESOLVED : That

(a) the following Minutes be accepted as a true record:

- Council meeting of 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2005
- Special Planning Committee meeting of 15<sup>th</sup> July 2005
- Special Planning Committee meeting of 19<sup>th</sup> July 2005

(b) the following Minutes be accepted as a true record, subject to the following amendments:

Special Planning Committee meeting of 14<sup>th</sup> July 2005

Page 1: Record an apology for Councillor Mrs M Chambers

#### **2005/382 : PRESENTATION BY REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE EASTERN DRUGS & ALCOHOL CO-ORDINATION TEAM**

Councillor Jeffers welcomed Mr Davis Turkington, Drugs & Alcohol Co-Ordinator, and Mr Paul McCusker, PBNI, EDACT Member, from the Eastern Drugs & Alcohol Co-Ordination Team to the meeting.

Mr Turkington outlined the role of the Eastern Drugs & Alcohol Co-Ordination Team and explained that the Team covered six district areas in the Eastern Health & Social Services Board, namely:

- Belfast
- Castlereagh
- Down
- North Down
- Lisburn
- Ards

Mr Turkington then gave details of drugs seized and arrests made relating to illegal drugs as well as referrals for treatment in relation to drugs and alcohol during 2004:

• Referrals for drug treatment	143
• Referrals for alcohol treatment	959
• Hospital admissions where alcohol or drugs were implicated as a primary diagnosis	540
• Hospital admissions where alcohol or drugs were implicated as a secondary diagnosis	983

Mr Turkington went on to list services and agencies in the area that provide help and advice to persons who suffer from drug or alcohol addiction. These are:

- Community Addiction Teams
- The CODA Project
- Chill
- EBCHIP
- Dual Diagnosis Nurse
- Alcohol Liaison Nurse (UCHT)
- SEELB Drug Education Unit
- PSNI Community Involvement
- NICAS

Following the presentation, Mr McCusker answered questions from Members.

Councillor Chambers enquired how much interaction between communities and the PSNI existed. Mr McCusker replied that statistics showed an increase in co-operation between communities and the PSNI. Councillor Hall was interested in statistics regarding Newtownbreda, but, as Mr McCusker explained, there had been no contact with local groups in that area.

Councillor Hanvey was concerned about the effect on communities and the mental health of drug or alcohol users as well as the possibility of people moving

on from Cannabis to other drugs. Mr McCusker stated that some Cannabis users moved on to other drugs, but he could not give exact figures. He added that the declassification of Cannabis had made no difference to the number of referrals or the type of drugs used. However, he expected to see an increase in the number of people using Cannabis in the future.

Noted.

## **PLANNING**

At this point, Councillor Duncan took the chair.

### **2005/383 : PRESENTATION FROM MONO CONSULTANTS LTD RE: PLANNING APPLICATION NO Y/2004/0441 – LAND AT FOOTPATH ON ALANBROOKE ROAD, BELFAST**

Councillor Duncan welcomed Mr Kevin Gillespie and Mr Paul Hutchinson from Mono Consultants Ltd to the meeting.

Mr Hutchinson provided an overview of the background to this application. He explained that O2 currently have a number of 2G and 3G sites in the Castlereagh Borough Council area, and that Tullycarnet especially was important for the coverage of Belfast and an essential 3G launch site in the Borough.

Mr Hutchinson informed Members that 3G technology would provide enhanced benefits to business and private customers, namely:

- The ability to send and receive email while on the move
- Video calling
- Access to central files, email accounts and wireless internet
- High-speed technology, which will assist in bringing new business to the area

All options regarding existing structures, site-sharing and reduction of visual impact from the proposed 15m column had been explored, and the application was considered consistent with Planning Service Guidance.

Mr Hutchinson then addressed concerns regarding the effects on the health of people living near a base station. He named the Stewart Report, AGNIR Report and the NRPB Report 2005, all of which considered that there was no evidence to indicate adverse effects. Therefore, on behalf of O2 UK Ltd, Mr Hutchinson requested a formal response from the Council to the Planning Service, approving progression of this application.

Following this presentation, the Chairperson invited questions from Members.

Alderman Iris Robinson raised concerns regarding the long-term adverse effects on health. Mr Hutchinson stated that O2 were sensitive to residents' concerns, and locations for masts were chosen with this in mind. However, he could not comment on the long-term effects on the health of people living close to a base station.

Councillor Harvey enquired about alternative methods of transmission. Mr Hutchinson informed Members that satellite transmission, for example, was being explored, and there were plans to combine 2G and 3G technology.

Noted.

## **SCHEDULE OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS (copy previously circulated)**

### **DEFERRED APPLICATIONS**

**2005/384 : APPLICATION Y/2004/0007/F 52 GREER PARK HEIGHTS, BALLYDOLLAGHAN, CASTLEREAGH : ERECTION OF GRANNY FLAT EXTENSION TO EXISTING DWELLING (amended plans and additional information)**

Members felt that approval should only be granted, if the Planning Service and the developer would take the risk of landsliding into consideration and offer some protection to neighbouring residents.

RESOLVED: That Council recommend approval on the basis that the Planning Service impose a stipulation on any permission with regard to protection to neighbouring properties as well as the risk of landsliding.

**2005/385 : APPLICATION Y/2003/0441/F - FOOTPATH AT ALANBROOKE ROAD, BELFAST, CO ANTRIM : PROPOSED STREET FURNITURE RADIO BASE STATION, 1 NO STREET FURNITURE POLE AND 2 NO FURNITURE CABINETS (additional information)**

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED: That consideration of this planning application be deferred until the Planning Officer's report on telecommunication installations within the Borough is complete and Members have had an opportunity to peruse its content.

**2005/386 : APPLICATION Y/2004/0470/F – 182 SAINTFIELD ROAD, BREDAS, BELFAST : REPLACEMENT OF EXISTING DWELLING WITH 4 NO. APARTMENTS (amended plans)**

Members raised concerns in respect of this application, as it was felt that the erection of apartments would pose a visual detriment, as they would not be in keeping with the general appearance of the area.

Noted.

**2005/387 : APPLICATION Y/2004/0534/F – FOOTPATH ON THE CORNER OF MILLTOWN ROAD AND RAMADA HOTEL ENTRANCE, SHAWS BRIDGE, BELFAST : INSTALLATION OF A 15M LAMPOST HOUSING 1 NO. OMNI ANTENNA, WITH ASSOCIATED GROUND-BASED EQUIPMENT SITED ADJACENT TO THE LAMPOST (additional information)**

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED: That consideration of this planning application be deferred until the Planning Officer's report on telecommunication installations within the Borough is complete and Members have had an opportunity to peruse its content.

**2005/388 : APPLICATION Y/2004/0599/F – GREENFIELD SITE TO THE WEST OF GILNAHIRK ROAD RETAIL DEVELOPMENT, 103 GILNAHIRK ROAD, BELFAST : INSTALLATION OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS APPARATUS TO INCLUDE A 15M HIGH RACAL PHASE 3 MONOPOLE, 3 NO. 3G PANEL ANTENNAE, 1 NO. VODAFONE 3101, 1 NO. VODAFONE METER CABINET (BOTH TO BE PAINTED GREEN) AND A 2.4M HIGH PALISADE FENCE INCLUDING SINGLE-LEAF GATE (additional information)**

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED: That consideration of this planning application be deferred until the Planning Officer's report on telecommunication installations within the Borough is complete and Members have had an opportunity to peruse its content.

**2005/389 : APPLICATION Y/2004/0686/F – TO THE REAR OF BLOCK C, PRINCE REGENT TRADE CENTRE, PRINCE REGENT ROAD, BELFAST : INSTALLATION OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS APPARATUS TO INCLUDE A 15M HIGH RACAL PHASE 3 MONOPOLE (17.5M INCLUDING ANTENNAE), 3 NO. 3G PANEL ANTENNAE AND 3 NO. 2G PANEL ANTENNAE, 1 NO. 600MM MICROWAVE DISH, 1 NO. VODAFONE 3101 OUTDOOR CABINET, 1 NO. 2106 OUTDOOR CABINET AND 1 NO. VODAFONE METER CABINET (ALL CABINETS TO BE PAINTED GREEN) AND A 1.8M HIGH GREEN PALISADE FENCE**

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED: That consideration of this planning application be deferred until the Planning Officer's report on telecommunication installations within the Borough is complete and Members have had an opportunity to peruse its content.

**NEW PLANNING APPLICATIONS**  
(copy previously circulated)

**2005/390 : APPLICATION Y/2004/0410/F – 26 EVERTON ROAD, BELFAST :  
DEMOLITION OF EXISTING DWELLING AND ERECTION OF 2 NO.  
DWELLINGS WITH GARAGES AND PARKING**

The Planning Officer informed Members that two additional reasons for refusal had been omitted from the Planning Schedule.

Noted.

**2005/391 : APPLICATION Y/2004/0705/F – HANWOOD HOUSE, 125 OLD  
DUNDONALD ROAD, BALLYHANWOOD, DUNDONALD : DEMOLITION OF  
DERELICT HOUSE AND ASSOCIATED BUILDINGS AND NEW  
DEVELOPMENT OF 27 NO. NEW-BUILD APARTMENTS**

In response to concerns expressed by Alderman Iris Robinson in regard to spillage of light, the Planning Service Officer responded that this had been addressed and the application re-advertised.

Noted.

**2005/392 : APPLICATION Y/2005/0022/F – ADJACENT TO 49  
BALLYHANWOOD ROAD, BALLYHANWOOD, BELFAST : ERECTION OF  
TWO-STOREY DWELLING (amended drawings)**

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED: That consideration of this 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 Drysdale.

**2005/393 : APPLICATION Y/2005/0126/F – 29 ROYAL LODGE ROAD,  
BALLYDOLLAGHAN, BELFAST : EXTENSION TO SIDE OF DWELLING**

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED: That consideration of this 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 Hanvey.

**2005/394 : APPLICATION Y/2005/0209/F – 2-4 GRANSHA ROAD, MONEYREAGH : ADDITION OF PORTACABIN FOR USE AS AN OFFICE FOR REFRIGERATION AND AIR-CONDITIONING BUSINESS**

In response to a query from Councillor Spratt, it was

RESOLVED: That the Planning Officer clarify the number of portacabins at this location and advise the Council.

**2005/395 : APPLICATION Y/2005/0210/F – 9 GALWAY DRIVE, CHURCH QUARTER, DUNDONALD : ERECTION OF 6 NO. TOWNHOUSES**

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED: That consideration of this 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 Alderman Iris Robinson.

**2005/396 : APPLICATION Y/2005/0225/F – LAND OPPOSITE FOREST GROVE, NEWTOWNBRED A ROAD, BELFAST : ERECTION OF FOUR-STOREY OFFICE BLOCK, CONTAINING 4 NO. SELF-CONTAINED UNITS (amendment to previous permission for three-storey office block Y/2004/0270/F, including amended car-parking layout)**

Following detailed discussion, in which Members expressed concerns in respect of the potential visual impact of this development, it was

RESOLVED: That consideration of this 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 Chambers.

## **PLANNING CORRESPONDENCE**

**2005/397 : WEEKLY LIST OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS FOR THE PERIOD 14 JUNE 2005 TO 18 JULY 2005 (copy previously circulated)**

Noted.

**2005/398 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM CHRIST CHURCH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, DUNDONALD, RE: COMPLAINT AND SIGNATURES REGARDING A PROPOSED ARCADE WITH GAMING MACHINES BEING ALLOWED TO OPEN IN DUNDONALD (copy previously circulated)**

Alderman Iris Robinson stated that many residents of Dundonald were strongly opposed to the opening of the gaming arcade, and a petition had been presented to the Council.

Alderman Peter Robinson added that this type of premises would be very unsuited to the area, as it was in close proximity to schools and residential areas. He concluded by saying that he hoped the Planning Service would take this into consideration when making a decision in respect of this application.

The Planning Officer added that she had spoken to the applicant, advising him of the scale of opposition to the proposal and that he should not proceed to open the business to the public.

Noted.

## **ANY OTHER PLANNING BUSINESS**

### **2005/399 : RATIFICATION OF MINUTES**

Following a proposal from Councillor Chambers, which was seconded by Councillor Tosh, it was

RESOLVED: That Special Planning Committee minutes be ratified at the end of Planning Committee meetings.

### **2005/340 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S OFFICE, PLANNING SERVICE, DATED 27 JULY 2005, RE: WORKLOAD PRESSURES (circulated at meeting)**

Members discussed the above correspondence and referred to a recent ministerial statement, which placed the emphasis regarding the delay in the processing of planning applications on the role of District Councils. Alderman Peter Robinson stated that, in his view, the responsibility lay with the Department's indecision in making recommendations, and applications often took at least two years before appearing in the Planning Schedule for Council response.

Members agreed on the importance of public consultation / democratic input and advised that the Department should look at various other options if it wished to expedite the planning process.

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED: That Officers be instructed to write to the Minister in respect of the recent news release to further streamline Planning Service procedures to express the Council's concerns as outlined above.

**2005/401 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, DATED 19 JULY 2005, RE: OUR LADY AND ST PATRICK'S COLLEGE (copy circulated at meeting)**

Alderman Peter Robinson expressed his dissatisfaction with the above correspondence, and following consideration, it was

RESOLVED: That Officers be instructed to write to the Minister of Education, requesting that two bids be submitted from each applicant, to include an alternative site.

**2005/402 : APPLICATION Y/2004/0276/O - 3 GLENSHARRAGH GARDENS, LISNASHARRAGH GARDENS, BELFAST : ERECTION OF A DETACHED THREE-BEDROOM, TWO-STOREY HOUSE ON SITE OF EXISTING GARAGE AND GARDEN**

Alderman Peter Robinson referred to the above application, requesting that the Planning Service Officer provide him with a status report. He also indicated that the Department should be aware of possible legal implications in connection with this application.

The Planning Service Officer responded that the Planning Service were aware of these issues and had met with the objectors. Although a site visit had taken place, consideration was still being given to the proposal and would be presented at a future meeting.

Noted.

At this point in the proceedings, Alderman Iris Robinson requested the suspension of Standing Orders. Councillor Jeffers welcomed representatives from Ballybeen Women's Centre.

Alderman Iris Robinson offered her condolences to the family of Mrs Mavis McCune, who had died unexpectedly. Alderman Robinson had worked with Mrs McCune on many occasions to raise funding for the Women's Centre, and she recalled that Mrs McCune had felt passionate about Ballybeen. In February 2005 Alderman Robinson had accompanied Mrs McCune to a meeting with the Minister for Social Development, John Spellar, to negotiate vital funding. In 2004 Mrs McCune had been presented with an MBE in recognition of her commitment and dedication to community work in an area of social need.

Mrs McCune had been dedicated to reverse the decline in education in Ballybeen and had worked tirelessly with Ballybeen Women's Centre to liaise with the South & East Belfast Trust to achieve funding, for example, to offer the ECDL qualification to women in the area. Currently there was a shortfall of £3,710, and Alderman Robinson proposed that the Council contribute towards this. Alderman Robinson stated that she would also write to the Minister in regard of this. She concluded by saying that, in her view, Ballybeen had been socially richer because of Mrs Mavis McCune.

Councillor Tosh stated that it gave him great pleasure to second the request for funding.

Councillor Drysdale concurred and added that he understood the sense of loss felt by the members of Ballybeen Women's Centre. He concluded by offering his sympathy to the family of Mrs McCune.

These sentiments were shared by Councillor Jeffers, who had known Mavis McCune for a long time, and he reiterated that she had contributed much towards the advancement of Ballybeen Women's Centre and the community.

RESOLVED: That the Council approve a payment of £3,710 to Ballybeen Women's Centre, to assist with the funding of educational projects.

**2005/403 : PRESENTATION BY THE IT MANAGER RE LAPTOP COMPUTERS (copy previously circulated)**

The IT Manager outlined the specifications of laptops for Members to replace the existing system in the Council Chamber, with a budget of £1,200 per laptop. As a comparison, he estimated the cost of replacement of broken computers to be in the region of £2,000 to £3,000, due to the system being outdated..

Councillor Beattie felt that this matter should be referred back to the IT Committee, as the need to purchase new equipment had not been confirmed.

Alderman Peter Robinson concurred. He considered the expense to the Council, and enquired as to the benefits of this proposed purchase.

The Director of Finance and Leisure Services replied that the existing equipment did not meet the Council's present requirements, and it had proved difficult to obtain replacement parts for computers that had broken down.

The Chief Executive felt that one great advantage of the proposal was that laptops could be used anywhere in the building by using wireless technology. Several Members noted that a further benefit was that agendas could be sent electronically, providing a speedier delivery plus a saving to the Council in paper and postage.

After some further discussion, it was

RESOLVED: That this matter be deferred to 'In Committee' later in the meeting.

## **ROADS**

**2005/404 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE ROADS SERVICE RE: PROPOSED ABANDONMENT OF LAY-BY AT ARDNOE AVENUE, DUNDONALD (copy previously circulated)**

Noted.

## **EDUCATION**

**2005/405 : MINUTES OF THE SOUTH EASTERN EDUCATION & LIBRARY BOARD HELD BETWEEN 26 MAY 2005 AND 20 JUNE 2005**

Noted.

**2005/406 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION RE: NOMINATIONS FOR APPOINTMENT AS MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF SEELB (copy previously circulated)**

Councillor Bunting requested a list of Board members and the date of the first meeting of the Board.

RESOLVED: That

- (a) The Council note the acceptance of Councillors Tosh and Spratt as members of the Board of SEELB:
- (b) Councillor Bunting be furnished with a full list of Board members and the date of the first Board meeting.

**2005/407 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION RE: ADDITIONAL RESOURCES FOR EDUCATION (copy previously circulated)**

Noted.

## **HOUSING**

**2005/408 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE NORTHERN IRELAND HOUSING EXECUTIVE RE: LIVING OVER THE SHOP (LOTS) INITIATIVE (copy letter previously circulated)**

After some discussion, it was

RESOLVED: That the Council approve that the Chief Executive write to the Northern Ireland Housing Executive to request additional information regarding the Living Over The Shop initiative.

**2005/409 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE NORTHERN IRELAND HOUSING EXECUTIVE RE: PLACES FOR PEOPLE ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2004/2005 (copy letter previously circulated)**

Noted.

**2005/410 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE NORTHERN IRELAND HOUSING EXECUTIVE RE: EXTINGUISHMENT OF PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY ORDER NO 3 2004, DUNDONALD, BALLYBEEN, LONGSONE MEWS (copy previously circulated)**

Noted.

## **HEALTH**

**2005/411 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE REVIEW OF MENTAL HEALTH AND LEARNING DISABILITY (NI) TEAM RE: A STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK FOR ADULT MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES (copy letter previously circulated)**

Noted.

**2005/412 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, SOCIAL SERVICES AND PUBLIC SAFETY RE: REGIONAL STRATEGY ON THE PREVENTION OF SUICIDE (copy previously circulated)**

Noted.

**2005/413 : EASTERN HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES BOARD**

Councillor Jack Beattie advised Members that the EHSSB had previously approached the Council requesting the re-establishment of the Health Committee. He felt, however, that it would be more appropriate for health matters to be referred to the Finance & General Purposes Committee. He suggested that

representatives from EHSSB be invited along to a future meeting of the Committee to discuss relevant health issues.

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED: That

- (a) The Council agree to write to the Eastern Health & Social Services Board, advising that the Council would not re-establish the Health Committee and that all health issues would be referred to the Finance & General Purposes Committee for consideration.
- (b) Representatives from the Eastern Health & Social Services Board be invited to a future meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee.

## **FINANCE**

### **2005/414 : ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT FOR JULY 2005**

RESOLVED: That the Council approve the undernoted payments:

Capital Account (General)	£104,530.69
General Account (Salaries)	£401,933.14
General Account (Suppliers)	£802,074.71

## **LEGAL**

### **2005/415 : LEASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN DUNDONALD VILLAGE REGENERATION GROUP AND CASTLEREAGH BOROUGH COUNCIL FOR LAND AT MOAT PARK TO BE USED FOR PUBLIC ARTWORK**

Councillor Jeffers declared an interest.

Following some discussion, it was

RESOLVED: That the Council approve the lease agreement with Dundonald Village Regeneration Group for land at Moat Park to be used for public artwork.

### **2005/416 : LEASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN BRYSON HOUSE RECYCLING LTD AND CASTLEREAGH BOROUGH COUNCIL REGARDING EXTENSION OF KERBSIDE RECYCLE SCHEME FOR A FURTHER PERIOD OF 12 MONTHS**

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED: That

- (a) The Council approve the lease agreement with Bryson House Recycling Ltd regarding the extension of the Kerbside Recycle Scheme for a further period of 12 months.
- (b) The Council approve the extension of the Tricycle Scheme to include August 2005.

## **REPORTS FROM OFFICERS**

### **REPORT FROM THE DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION & COMMUNITY SERVICES (copy previously circulated)**

**Due to the absence of the Director of Administration & Community Services, the report was presented by the Human Resources Manager**

#### **2005/417 : COMMUNITY RELATIONS FUNDING**

The Human Resources Manager outlined the 2005-2006 Grant Aid Programme as follows:

- Total Community Relations grant           £87,706.00
- Castlereagh Council contribution           £21,926.00
- Community Relations Unit contribution   £65,780.00

RESOLVED: That the Council approve retrospectively an agreement between the Council and the Community Relations Unit for the 2005-2006 Grant Aid Programme.

#### **2005/418 : SHORTFALL IN FUNDING FOR SENIOR CITIZENS TEA DANCE - CREGAGH**

The Human Resources Manager reported that the annual contribution from the Community Relations Unit for the Cregagh Senior Citizens Tea Dance was £1,000, leaving a shortfall of £1,705.

Members expressed concerns about the reduction in funding from the previous year. Councillor Bunting stated that senior citizens looked forward to the dances, which promoted healthier living and general well-being.

Following further discussion, it was

RESOLVED: That

- (a) In respect of the shortfall in funding for the Cregagh Senior Citizens Tea Dance attempt to cover the shortfall within the existing budgets.
- (b) A letter be forwarded to the Community Relations Unit, representing a stronger case for an increase in funding.
- (c) Officers ascertain the criteria for funding, any recent changes to these criteria, specifically the range of groups that have been funded to date and to report back to a future meeting of the Committee.
- (d) Officers ascertain when the existing funds of £1,000 will be spent in full and to report back to a future meeting of the Committee.

#### **2005/419 : HILLFOOT RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION**

The Human Resources Manager reported that a Seeding Grant application had been received from Hillfoot Residents Association. Although no Seeding Grants had been made available in the previous year, a sum of £1,000 had been set aside for 2005-2006 to cover applications that met the Council's criteria.

RESOLVED: That the Council approve a Seeding Grant of £100 to Hillfoot Residents Association.

#### **2005/420 : HEATING AT BALLYORAN CENTRE**

The Human Resources Manager referred to the report from the Council's Mechanical Engineer regarding the proposed conversion of the heating system at the Ballyoran Centre. The Manager sought Council approval for the cost of £1,200 to be met by the Energy Conservation budget, held in Technical & Environmental Services. She anticipated the conversion would result in future savings in fuel costs.

RESOLVED: That Council approve payment of £1,200 in respect of the conversion of the heating system at Ballyoran Centre to Phoenix Gas, to be paid through the EC budget held in Technical & Environmental Services.

#### **2005/421 : COMMUNITY RELATIONS – SMALL GRANT APPLICATIONS – BONFIRE CELEBRATIONS**

The Human Resources Manager outlined two Small Grant applications that had been received from Longstone Community Association and Lagan Valley

Heritage & Culture Society for £500 each towards their bonfire celebrations. The Manager informed Members that a sum of £1,000 had already been made available through the Community Relations Programme to the Inter-Agency Bonfire Working Group, and a further £1,000 had been approved at the June Council meeting. No additional funding was available at present.

Alderman Iris Robinson recalled that Council representatives had been working hard for the last 14 years to improve the bonfire site at Gransha Walk / Coronation Park. Although an agreement had been reached with the organisers to move the bonfire site, this had been ignored and flowerbeds in the memorial garden had subsequently been destroyed.

Councillor Drysdale expressed disappointment, as the Inter-Agency Bonfire Working Group had been working hard with community groups to make bonfires more family-friendly and safer. He suggested that more funding was needed to improve bonfire events in the future.

Councillor Chambers felt that, rather than money, groups should be given assistance in kind, for example, party packs. She added that tyres and other dangerous materials should be removed from bonfires.

Councillor Long stated that Council staff had attempted to remove tyres from bonfires, but it had proved dangerous for them and they had come under threat. The police, when asked to intervene, had refused on the grounds that this might provoke civil unrest. An alternative might be to provide funding to bonfire groups on condition that the groups adhere to safety regulations and conditions set by the Council.

Councillor Jack Beattie reminded Members that the Council had allocated a total of £2,000 to bonfire groups this year, therefore he felt that this request for a further £1,000 was unreasonable.

Councillor Drysdale then informed Members that out of 21 bonfires in the Borough, the vast majority had been quiet. He also recommended that the word 'bonfire' should be removed from funding applications, to be replaced with 'cultural event'.

Councillor Drysdale wished to place on record that he opposed the Council's decision on this occasion.

RESOLVED: That

- (a) The Council reject the Small Grant applications from Longstone Community Association and Lagan Valley Heritage & Culture Society for £500 each in respect of cultural events on 11 July 2005.

- (b) Officers prepare a report on the breakdown in spending for funds already allocated in respect of cultural events on 11 July 2005 for a future meeting of Committee.

**2005/422 : GREENGRAVES DRAMA GROUP (Minute CS 2005/30 refers)**

The Human Resources Manager provided Members with an update on this matter. She reported that the Central Services Committee had deferred an application for £500 to Greengraves Drama Group to assist with a shortfall in funding, in order to allow Officers to obtain copy receipts regarding previously awarded funding from the Council as well as the reason why the production had not taken place yet.

RESOLVED: That Council defer consideration of grant application for £500 from the Greengraves Drama Group (Minute CS2005/30 refers) until the Council meeting in September.

**2005/423 : COMMUNITY RELATIONS GRANT AID APPLICATION – DUNDONALD ELIM CHURCH**

The Human Resources Manager stated that an application had been received from Dundonald Elim Church in respect of a contribution of £392 towards a summer scheme project.

After some discussion, it was

RESOLVED: That Council approve a Community Relations grant aid application of £392 to Dundonald Elim Church in respect of a summer scheme project.

**2005/424 : ROYAL IRISH REGIMENT – ROLL OF HONOUR**

The Human Resources Manager outlined a request from 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion Royal Irish Regiment to house a marble Roll of Honour in the Civic Centre.

Councillor Drysdale supported this request. Councillor Spratt concurred and proposed that the request be granted. Councillor Gareth Robinson seconded the proposal.

Councillor Spratt further suggested that, as a mark of gratitude, the Council hold a ceremony for the families of members of 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion Royal Irish Regiment.

RESOLVED: That the Council approve a request from 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion Royal Irish Regiment to house a marble Roll of Honour in respect of the Ulster Defence Regiment in the Civic Centre.

**2005/425 : LA MON COMMITTEE**

As there had been no appointments made to the La Mon Committee at the AGM, the Human Resources Manager asked that Members now consider this matter.

Councillor Ann-Marie Beattie proposed that Aldermen Iris Robinson and John Norris as well as Councillors Chambers and Spratt be elected as representatives to the La Mon Committee.

The proposal was seconded by Councillor Gareth Robinson.

Councillor Duncan proposed that Councillor Long be elected as representative to the La Mon Committee.

The proposal was seconded by Councillor Cochrane.

Councillor Drysdale proposed that Councillor Henderson be elected as representative to the La Mon Committee.

The proposal was seconded by Councillor Hall.

RESOLVED: That the Council approve the appointment of Alderman Iris Robinson, Alderman Norris, Councillor Henderson, Councillor Chambers, Councillor Spratt and Councillor Long as members of the La Mon Committee.

**REPORT FROM THE DIRECTOR OF TECHNICAL & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES**  
**(Copy previously circulated)**

**2005/426 : CAPITAL PROJECTS OFFICER**

The Director of Technical & Environmental Services reported that three separate recruitment exercises had been carried out to date in respect of the post of Capital Projects Officer, which had been unsuccessful. In light of this, the Director felt that a greater response could be achieved if there was a market supplement of £2,000 for the post.

After some discussion, it was

RESOLVED: That this matter be deferred until the September Technical & Environmental Services Committee meeting.

**2005/427 : LAGAN VALLEY REGIONAL PARK (LVRP) HERITAGE LOTTERY APPLICATION**

The Operational Services Manager referred to his supplementary report, which outlined additional information received following the Council's resolution in April 2005 that, subject to satisfactory legal advice from the Council's solicitors, the Council sign the Stage 1 contract with the Heritage Lottery Fund on behalf of Lagan Valley Regional Park partners.

The Manager stated that considerable progress had been made, and he referred to a letter received from the Manager of the Northern Ireland Heritage Lottery Fund, which provided reassurance to the Council regarding the terms of the contract period, which had been set at a standard 12 months from the letter of offer, with the possibility of extension if necessary. With this information to hand, the Operational Services Manager felt that, should further discussions confirm that the risk to the Council of accepting the £85,100 grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund on behalf of the Lagan Valley Regional Park had been reduced to an acceptable level, the Chief Executive should be authorised to sign the contract.

Councillor Chambers offered her support for this venture.

After some discussion, it was

**RESOLVED:** That Council be recommended to approve that the Chief Executive sign the contract accepting the £85,100 grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund on behalf of Lagan Valley Regional Park, if further discussions confirmed that the risk to the Council had been reduced to an acceptable level, with delegated authority being granted to the Mayor and the Chairmen of the Technical & Environmental Services Committee and the Finance & General Purposes Committee, and retrospective approval being sought at the following Council meeting.

#### **2005/428 : ARC 21 JOINT COMMITTEE**

The Director of Technical & Environmental Services outlined a study visit to Austria, which would provide information regarding variations of mechanical biological treatment and organic waste treatment facilities. The visit would also be an opportunity for Councillors and Officers to see 'good practice' waste management operations first hand.

The Director informed Members that the cost of the visit would be approximately £500, and this would include travel, accommodation and subsistence.

Following a proposal from Councillor Hall that Alderman Norris and one Officer should take part in this study visit, it was

RESOLVED: That the Council approve that Alderman Norris and one Officer take part in a study visit to Austria in order to gain information in respect of waste management operations.

**2005/429 : MAYOR/DEPUTY MAYOR'S BUSINESS FOR JULY 2005 (copy previously circulated)**

Noted.

**GENERAL**

**2005/430 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE DRAINAGE COUNCIL FOR NORTHERN IRELAND RE: APPOINTMENTS TO THE DRAINAGE COUNCIL FOR NORTHERN IRELAND (copy letter previously circulated)**

Councillor Jack Beattie proposed that Councillor Ramsey represent the Council at the Drainage Council for Northern Ireland. The proposal was seconded by Alderman Norris.

RESOLVED: That the Council approve the appointment of Councillor Ramsey to the Board of the Drainage Council for Northern Ireland.

**2005/431 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM ST JOHN AMBULANCE, EASTERN AREA RE: FREEDOM OF THE BOROUGH FOR ST JOHN AMBULANCE DIVISIONS IN THE COUNCIL AREA (copy previously circulated)**

Noted.

**2005/432 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILLORS RE: NATIONAL WOMEN'S CONFERENCE 'PROMOTING THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT' (copy previously circulated)**

Councillor Bunting voiced concern that the fee of £295 plus VAT in respect of the National Women's Conference was too high. She felt that more people would attend if the cost was lowered, and she requested that the NAC be contacted. Alderman Norris, as a member of the NAC, was asked to raise this point with the NAC.

RESOLVED: That Alderman Norris write to the NAC regarding the cost of attendance at the National Women's Conference, to be held on 9-11 September 2005.

**2005/433 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILLORS NORTHERN IRELAND REGION RE: ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND CONFERENCE – BURRENDALE HOTEL, NEWCASTLE, 9 AND 10 SEPTEMBER 2005 (copy previously circulated)**

Councillor Jack Beattie raised concerns that the NAC had raised the annual membership fee. Members agreed, although Alderman Norris felt that the NAC supplied an excellent service to its members.

After some discussion, it was

RESOLVED: That the Council approve the attendance of the two NAC representatives and substitute at the NAC Annual General Meeting and Conference in the Burrendale Hotel, Newcastle, on 9 and 10 September 2005.

**2005/434 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE YOUTH COUNCIL FOR NORTHERN IRELAND RE: STRATEGIC PLAN 2004-2007**

Noted.

**2005/435 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE WATER SERVICE RE: DRINKING WATER REPORT 2004 (copy letter previously circulated)**

Noted.

**2005/436 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM ARDS BOROUGH COUNCIL RE: SAFETY ON BUSES (copy previously circulated)**

Councillor Long stated his approval of the new legislation, which requires that all school buses be fitted with seat belts.

RESOLVED: That the Council support the position adopted by Ards Borough Council in that the fitting of seat belts in school buses should become mandatory.

**2005/437 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM OFREG RE: SUPPLY COMPETITION FOR DOMESTIC CUSTOMERS (copy previously circulated)**

Noted.

**2005/438 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE NORTHERN IRELAND COURT SERVICE RE: INCLUSION OF 17-YEAR-OLDS IN THE YOUTH COURT (copy previously circulated)**

Noted.

**2005/439 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM LONDONDERRY CITY COUNCIL RE: NOTICE OF MOTION: 'MAKE POVERTY HISTORY' (copy previously circulated)**

In light of the achievements at the G8 summit, Councillor Long proposed that the Council purchase larger quantities of Fair Trade tea and coffee and that staff be encouraged to use these rather than the alternatives.

The proposal was seconded by Councillor Bunting.

RESOLVED: That the Council approve the purchase of increased quantities of Fair Trade tea and coffee and that staff be encouraged to use these instead of the alternative products.

**2005/440 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE SOMME HERITAGE CENTRE RE: EVENTS THIS SUMMER (copy previously circulated)**

Noted.

**REPORTS AND ANNUAL REPORTS**

**2005/441 : JUSTICE OVERSIGHT COMMISSIONER, FOURTH REPORT OF THE JUSTICE OVERSIGHT COMMISSIONER**

Noted.

**2005/442 : COMMISSIONER FOR PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS FOR NORTHERN IRELAND, TENTH REPORT 2004-2005**

Noted.

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**2005/443 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS RE: NORTHERN IRELAND ENERGY HOLDINGS LTD – APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS**

Noted.

**2005/444 : START OF MEETINGS**

Due to the lengthy duration of Council meetings, Councillor Long proposed that they commence at 7.00 pm instead of 7.30 pm. Councillor Jack Beattie

concurred, but he added that commencement of Committee meetings should remain at 7.30 pm.

Councillor Bunting seconded the proposal.

RESOLVED: That the Council approve that Council meetings commence at 7.00 pm instead of 7.30 pm.

### **2005/445 : ATTENDANCE AT THE DUNDONALD GAMES**

During her term as Mayor, Councillor Bunting had received an invitation to attend the Dundonald Games, therefore the present Mayor, Councillor Jeffers, asked that Councillor Bunting and her husband accompany him and that the cost be covered by the Council.

RESOLVED: That the Council approve that Councillor Bunting and her husband accompany the Mayor to attend the Dundonald Games, the cost to be covered by the Council.

## **IN COMMITTEE**

### **2005/446 : THE BETTING, GAMING, LOTTERIES AND AMUSEMENTS (NI) ORDER 1985 (Minute 2005/317 refers)**

The Director of Technical & Environmental Services provided Members with an update on this matter. He reported that, following the Council's provisional approval of an Amusement Permit in June 2005, the applicant had now requested that the permit be declared final. The conditions applicable are as follows:

- Maximum number of gaming machines allowed on premises – 25
- Hours of opening – Monday to Saturday (inclusive) 10.00 am to 10.00 pm
- Area of premises containing £25 maximum payout machines to be separated from the remainder by a physical barrier
- Entrance to this area to be supervised
- At the entrance and inside this area, notices are to be prominently displayed, indicating that access to the area is prohibited to persons under 18 years of age
- The internal illumination shall be ceiling-mounted fluorescent lighting of sufficient output to ensure that all areas of the premises are clearly visible from the kiosk area
- The advertising signage on the premises will not be illuminated and shall display only the premises' name and logo

- The window displays on the premises shall, with the exception of the main entrance door, be opaque frosted glass with the company name 'Lucky Jacks' in small lettering on each window
- The front door glazing will be clear to allow vision for the kiosk attendant to control access, and the days and hours of opening and the age restrictions applicable will be clearly visible at the main entrance

The management has also decided that a notice be displayed, stating that no alcohol will be permitted on the premises, although this is not a condition of the permit. It is also intended to have security cameras recording 24 hours a day, and the PSNI will be welcome to view these recordings at any time.

Alderman Peter Robinson enquired whether the Council had taken legal advice.

After some discussion, it was

RESOLVED: That the Council defer this application until the August Council meeting, in order to allow the Chief Executive to obtain a legal opinion to ensure that all conditions have been met.

#### **2005/447 : LAPTOP COMPUTERS**

Members felt that the purchase of laptops warranted further discussion. Councillor Jack Beattie suggested that training should be offered regarding the use of the new equipment, and that a black-and-white laser printer should be offered along with the laptop.

Alderman Peter Robinson felt that the quality of the laptop should be a priority, that the proposed specifications needed to be improved, to include 1GB RAM and an 80GB hard drive, and that an internal DVD-drive should be included in the requirements.

The Chief Executive responded that tenders would have to be sought or, alternatively, Council would have to purchase through the Government Purchasing Agency, which had many advantages and saved the cost of tendering.

After some discussion, it was

RESOLVED: That the Council approve that prices be sought in respect of the acquisition of laptops for Members, with the higher specification outlined by Alderman Peter Robinson, and that the Chairman of the Finance and Leisure Committee liaise with the Director of Finance and Leisure Services regarding the final appointment of supplier.

There being no further business, the meeting ended at 12.30 am.

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**CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

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**MAYOR**