

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 24th March 2005 at 7.25 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillor Ms J Bunting
(In the Chair)

ALDERMEN: C Hall
P Osborne
Mrs I Robinson MP MLA
P D Robinson MP MLA

COUNCILLORS: J Beattie
M Copeland
D Drysdale
Mrs S Duncan
B Hanvey
Miss Hughes MBE
M Long
J Norris
Mrs G Rice (from 7.50 p.m.)
M Robinson MLA (until 7.55 p.m.)
T Sandford
J White

IN ATTENDANCE: Chief Executive, Director of Technical & Environmental Services, Director of Administration & Community Services, Economic Development Manager, Planning Service Officer, Planning Officer and Assistant Members' Services Officer

APOLOGIES: Apologies were received on behalf of Alderman Henderson, Councillors Miss Stevenson, Ms McBurney, Norris and an apology for the late arrival of Councillor Mrs Rice

2005/144 : OPENING OF MEETING

The Reverend Greenfield opened the meeting with a prayer.

Noted.

2005/145 : MINUTES

RESOLVED : That

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

- Technical & Environmental Services Committee meeting of 1 March 2005
- Special Technical & Environmental Services Committee meeting of 7 March 2005
- Special Planning Committee meeting of 21st March 2005:
- Administration & Community Services Committee meeting of 14 March 2005
- Staff & Office Accommodation Committee meeting of 14 March 2005
- Civic Committee meeting of 14 March 2005
- Finance & Leisure Services Committee meeting of 16 March 2005

(b) Minutes of the Special Technical & Environmental Services Committee meeting held on 21 March 2005 be accepted as a true record, with the exception of Minute No. T&ES/2005/145 which is subject to further consideration at the "In Committee" part of the Agenda.

(c) the Council Minutes of 24 February 2005 be accepted as a true record, subject to the following amendment:

Page 24 – Delete the content of Minute 2005/137 and insert

"Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED : That the Council agrees that the current Chairman and Vice Chairman of Castlereagh District Policing Partnership continue in post until 30th November 2005".

(d) Minutes of the Leisure Park Board meeting of 17 January 2005 be noted.

MATTERS ARISING

2005/146 : REINSTATEMENT OF ROAD NEAR THE HANWOOD CENTRE

Following a query from Alderman Mrs Robinson in respect of the above, it was

RESOLVED : That the Economic Development Manager contact the contractor to ascertain when the repair work would be carried out to the manhole covers on the road adjacent to the church and the Hanwood Centre.

2005/147 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE NORTHERN IRELAND COMMONWEALTH GAMES COUNCIL SEEKING SUPPORT FROM THE COUNCIL TOWARDS THE 2006 COMMONWEALTH GAMES IN AUSTRALIA (Minute No. F&LS/2005/57 refers)

The Economic Development Manager advised Members that the Council had previously provided funding of £3,000.00 towards the Games in 1998 and in 2002, but as no provision had been made in 2005/2006 estimates, the Committee had referred the matter to Council for consideration.

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED : That the Council agrees that consideration of the request from the Northern Ireland Commonwealth Games Council for financial assistance towards the 2006 Commonwealth Games be referred back to the Finance & Leisure Services Committee, with a view to drawing up a proposal for funding support.

2005/148 : LEISURE PARK BOARD MEETING HELD ON 24 MARCH 2005 AT 6.45 P.M. – CONSIDERATION OF TENDERS FOR THE PROVISION OF HOT BEVERAGE VENDING MACHINES WITHIN COUNCIL FACILITIES (Minute No LPB/2005/51 refers)

Alderman Peter Robinson outlined that as the tender in respect of the above did not relate solely to the Leisure Park site, it was beyond the remit of the Leisure Park Board to award the tender.

He sought approval for the Board's recommendation to award the tender to Café Experience, and he advised Members that the vending machines would offer the choice of Fairtrade brands of tea and coffee.

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED : That the Council agrees that the tender for the provision of hot beverage vending machines within the Leisure Park site and other Council facilities be awarded to Café Experience.

Councillor Mrs Rice arrived at this point at 7.50 p.m.

PLANNING

2005/149 : RESIGNATION OF THE PLANNING OFFICER

Councillor Ms Bunting outlined that Andrew had been an asset to the Council, and on behalf of Members, she thanked him for all his advice and assistance. The Mayor then presented him with a token of appreciation.

The Planning Officer thanked the Mayor and commented that he had benefited greatly through his time with the Council.

Noted.

Councillor Robinson left the meeting at this point at 7.55 p.m.

**SCHEDULE OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS DATED 24 MARCH 2005
(copy previously circulated)**

APPLICATIONS DEFERRED FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

2005/150 : APPLICATION Y/2004/0278/F – 37 QUEENSFORT PARK SOUTH, CARRYDUFF : ERECTION OF RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT CONSISTING OF 14 DWELLINGS WITH GARAGES (correspondence from the Planning Service circulated at the meeting)

Councillor White proposed that the above application be referred to the Management Board.

Councillor Hanvey sought clarification from the Planning Officer as to whether the Council would gain anything by referring this application to the Management Board, when a previous application had been approved.

The Planning Officer confirmed that the previous application had been in respect of 8 houses, and at that stage the Council had raised a number of concerns, including the issue of flooding. He added that the application had therefore been referred to the Management Board who had supported the Planning Service's determination to approve the development.

He pointed out that the new application was for 14 dwellings, which would exacerbate some of the existing problems. He added that he had written to the Planning Service outlining the Council's concerns and he referred Members to the response which had been circulated prior to the meeting commencing, and in particular, to the fact that the Planning Service were of the view that having consulted with the various agencies, assessment had demonstrated no justification for refusing planning permission for this development.

The Planning Officer pointed out that he had raised the issue of the Draft Policy Statement with the Planning Service and he was of the view that this may be an avenue to pursue when referring this application to the Management Board.

Following further discussion, it was

RESOLVED : That the Council agrees that Planning Application Y/2004/0278/F be referred to the Management Board.

APPLICATIONS FOR PLANNING PERMISSION

2005/151 : APPLICATION Y/2003/0640/F – DUNLADY NURSING HOME, 18 DUNLADY ROAD, DUNDONALD : ALTERATIONS AND ERECTION OF EXTENSION TO FRONT ELEVATION AND, ERECTION OF LIFT SHAFT AND REMOVAL OF PORTACABIN FOR NEW LAUNDRY AND STAFF BUILDING

At the request of Alderman Mrs Robinson, it was

RESOLVED : That consideration of Planning Application Y/2003/0640/F be deferred to enable a site visit to be held at a date and time to be arranged with the Chairman of the Planning Committee and Alderman Mrs Robinson.

2005/152 : APPLICATION Y/2003/0658/0 – 292 COMBER ROAD, BALLYBEEN : SITE FOR ERECTION OF 3 DETACHED DWELLINGS WITH GARAGES (AMENDED PLANS)

Following a proposal by Alderman Mrs Robinson, it was

RESOLVED : That consideration of Planning Application Y/2003/0659/0 be deferred to enable a site visit to be held at a date and time to be arranged with the Chairman of the Planning Committee and Alderman Mrs Robinson.

2005/153 : APPLICATION Y/2004/0075/F – 130M NORTH EAST OF 15 LISNASALLAGH ROAD, CARRYDUFF : ERECTION OF RETIREMENT FARM DWELLING

Alderman Mrs Robinson outlined that the above application had been with the Planning Service for the past 13 months, with no indication of any concern in respect of the style of dwelling. She added that the Planning Service had, however, expressed concern about the possible loss of important trees, and as a result, the applicant had employed a specialist to inspect the site. She outlined that an assurance had been given to the Planning Service that the trees would not be at risk, and there had been a general agreement that the application had met all the relevant planning criteria.

She proposed that a site visit be arranged.

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED : That consideration of Planning Application Y/2004/0075/F be deferred to enable a site visit to be held at a date and time to be arranged with the Chairman of the Planning Committee and Alderman Mrs Robinson.

2005/154 : APPLICATION Y/2004/0276/0 – 3 GLENSHARRAGH GARDENS, LISNASHARRAGH, BELFAST : ERECTION OF A DETACHED 3 BEDROOM, 2 STOREY HOUSE ON SITE OF EXISTING GARAGE AND GARDENS

Alderman Peter Robinson proposed that a site visit be arranged in respect of the above, and he asked that Officers contact his office to obtain the details of a number of objectors.

RESOLVED : That consideration of Planning Application Y/2004/0276/0 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 and Alderman Peter Robinson. The objectors to be advised of the site visit.

2005/155 : APPLICATION Y/2004/0518/F – LAND ADJACENT TO LADAS DRIVE PSNI STATION AND OPPOSITE NUMBERS 103 TO 109 LADAS DRIVE, BELFAST

Alderman Peter Robinson outlined that it was his understanding that work on this proposal had already commenced, and since there was nothing to indicate that this was an ex post facto application, the Council should have been consulted beforehand. As this had not been the case, he asked for clarification whether enforcement action had been taken by the Planning Service.

The Planning Service Officer advised Members that the application was in respect of car park provision to service police station personnel, and although the work had already been carried out, he explained he was not in a position to confirm if work had commenced when the application had initially been submitted.

Alderman Peter Robinson asked if the PSNI were above planning law, and expressed his anger that the Council were now being asked to consider an application, which had already been permitted by the Planning Service.

The Planning Service Officer responded that, although it was not an offence to carry out works without prior planning approval, it was clearly not advisable to do so.

Subsequently, Alderman Peter Robinson asked that the Planning Service Officer investigate the matter further and report back to the next meeting of Council.

RESOLVED : That the Planning Service Officer investigate why the Planning Service permitted the PSNI to commence work in respect of Planning Application Y/2004/0518/F, without following planning procedures by consulting with the Council before granting approval, and to further ascertain why enforcement action had therefore not been taken.

2005/156 : APPLICATION Y/2004/0481/F – 232 LOWER BRANIEL ROAD, BELFAST : ERECTION OF FOUR DETACHED PRIVATE DWELLINGS

Following a proposal by Councillor Ms Bunting, it was

RESOLVED : That consideration of Planning Application Y/2004/0481/F 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 and Councillor Ms Bunting.

2005/157 : APPLICATION Y/2004/0465/F – THE GRASS VERGE 60M SOUTH EAST OF 2 WINDRUSH AVENUE, AT THE END OF MANSE ROAD, BELFAST ERECTION OF 11.5M HIGH LAMPOST HOUSING 3 ADC WIDEBAND ANTENNA WITH A CIRCULAR TUBE SHROUD, WITH ASSOCIATED GROUND BASED EQUIPMENT SITED ADJACENT TO THE LAMPOST (ADDITIONAL INFORMATION)

Following a proposal by Alderman Hall, it was

RESOLVED : That consideration of Planning Application Y/2004/0465/F be deferred to enable a site visit to be held at a date and time to be arranged with the Chairman of the Planning Committee and Alderman Hall.

2005/158 : APPLICATION Y/2004/0663/F – LAND 16M SOUTH WEST OF 3 BALLYKNOCKAN ROAD, SAINTFIELD : INSTALLATION OF 15M MONOPOLE WITH 2 ANTENNAE, 1 300MM MICROWAVE DISH GROUND BASED EQUIPMENT CABINETS, ANCILLARY EQUIPMENT IN A PALADIN FENCED COMPOUND

It was proposed by Alderman Mrs Robinson, seconded by Councillor Ms Bunting, and

RESOLVED : That consideration of Planning Application Y/2004/0663/F be deferred to enable a site visit to be held at a date and time to be arranged with the Chairman of the Planning Committee and Alderman Mrs Robinson.

2005/159 : APPLICATION IN RESPECT OF LISNASHARRAGH PRIMARY SCHOOL

Alderman Peter Robinson stated that a planning application from Lisnasharragh Primary School in respect of sports pitches had been submitted to the Planning Service quite a while back. He added that residents had been complaining that despite the fact that the Planning Service had not made a determination yet, there were indications that work had already commenced. He asked if the Planning Service Officer could give Members an assurance that no

work would be carried out so that the application could be considered in line with properly laid out procedures.

Councillor Long outlined that there had been a similar application submitted by the school a number of years back, and he asked if the Planning Service Officer could clarify exactly when this was and what the determination had been.

Alderman Mrs Robinson stated that she had been contacted by residents living in the Craignish area, who had been advised that the road adjacent to their homes was being adapted to incorporate a bus lane. She added that it was her understanding that roadworks had already commenced without residents being given the opportunity to comment on the proposal. She indicated that she had written to the Planning Service to clarify the situation.

The Planning Service Officer outlined that this would be a matter for the Roads Service, but that he would investigate the above matters raised by the three Elected Representatives and report back.

RESOLVED : That the Planning Service Officer investigate the issues raised by Alderman Peter Robinson and Councillor Long in respect of Lisnasharragh Primary School and liaise with the Roads Service in respect of Alderman Mrs Robinson's query in respect of a bus lane at Craignish, Ballybeen.

PLANNING CORRESPONDENCE

2005/160 : WEEKLY LIST OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS FOR THE PERIOD 22 FEBRUARY TO 14 MARCH 2005 (copy previously circulated)

Noted.

2005/161 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE PLANNING SERVICE RE: MAJOR PLANNING APPLICATION – ACCESS AND ASSOCIATED ROAD WORKS TO SERVE FOODSTORE DEVELOPMENT PERMITTED UNDER APPLICATION Y/2000/0766/0 AT LAND AT BELVOIR ROAD AND 170/174 NEWTOWNBREDA ROAD, NEWTOWNBREDA (Y/2004/0713) (copy letter previously circulated)

Alderman Peter Robinson outlined that given the major road/traffic proposals which were subject to this separate application which was before Members this evening, that planning approval for the store should not have been already granted.

Following further discussion, it was proposed by Alderman Peter Robinson, seconded by Councillor White, and

RESOLVED : That the Council agrees to write to the Planning Service in respect of Major Planning Application – Access and Associated Road Works to serve Foodstore Development permitted under Application Y/2000/0766/0 highlighting the following:

- (a) the Council believed that the Roads Service had not found a satisfactory outcome to the major road/traffic difficulties
- (b) concerns relating to approval for the Tesco store, despite the fact that the major/traffic problems had not been fully considered, and were now the subject of this separate application
- (c) the Council's continued opposition to the development of this particular site for a superstore, given the critical traffic problems

2005/162 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE PLANNING SERVICE RE: MANAGEMENT BOARD REFERRAL – SITE FOR DWELLING AT 88 DRUMALIG ROAD, KILLYNURE, CARRYDUFF (copy previously circulated)

Noted.

2005/163 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE PLANNING APPEALS COMMISSION RE: PLANNING (NI) ORDER 1991 : APPEAL AGAINST ENFORCEMENT NOTICE ISSUED ON 3 FEBRUARY 2005 (copy previously circulated)

Following a query from the Planning Officer in respect of the above, the Planning Service Officer confirmed that this matter had previously been referred to the Planning Appeals Commission. He then read out for Members' information, the letter which he had forwarded to the PAC last September.

Councillor Ms Bunting expressed the view that the letter should be updated and submitted again to the PAC in support of enforcement action being taken.

Following further discussion, it was

RESOLVED : That the Council agrees to write to the Planning Appeals Commission advising that it supports enforcement action being taken by the Planning Service in respect of the use of land to the rear of 115 Lower Braniel Road, Castlereagh.

2005/164 : RECENT DEATH OF COUNCILLOR HANVEY'S MOTHER

Councillor Ms Bunting expressed her condolences to Councillor Hanvey and his family on the recent death of his mother.

Alderman Peter Robinson outlined that he would have been in contact with Councillor Hanvey sooner, but he had just learned of the sad news earlier that evening. He asked that a system be put in place whereby each Member was contacted immediately, or in the event of something occurring at the weekend, then they should be contacted first thing on Monday morning.

On behalf of his family, Councillor Hanvey thanked those Members who had sent cards and letters of condolences, and who had attended the funeral. He added that he and his family had appreciated the sentiments expressed.

RESOLVED : That Officers ensure that, at the first available opportunity, Members were personally informed of the death of a former Elected Representative or their family member.

ROADS

2005/165 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE DRIVER AND VEHICLE LICENSING NORTHERN IRELAND – ROAD TRANSPORT LICENSING DIVISION DATED 22 FEBRUARY 2005 RE: APPLICATION FOR THE AMENDMENT OF A ROAD SERVICE LICENCE – CITYBUS LTD (copy previously circulated)

Noted.

2005/166 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE ROADS SERVICE RE: PROPOSAL FOR A DRAFT TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT (NI) ORDER (copy letter previously circulated)

Councillor White expressed his concern that the Department was likely to appoint a third party to police this particular piece of legislation.

Alderman Peter Robinson outlined that the legislation had been brought about by popular demand and had been unanimously supported by Assembly Members. He added that Northern Ireland was the only part of the United Kingdom where the police were responsible for this issue and the legislation allowed for the decriminalization of off-street parking, etc so that it could be dealt with by someone other than the police.

Noted.

2005/167 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE ROADS SERVICE RE: CHANGE OF OPERATIONAL TIME FOR THE BUS LANE IN CASTLEREAGH ROAD AND THE SAINTFIELD ROAD (copy previously circulated)

Noted.

EDUCATION

2005/168 : MINUTES OF THE SOUTH EASTERN EDUCATION & LIBRARY BOARD HELD DURING FEBRUARY 2005

Noted.

2005/169 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION RE: CONSULTATION ON REVIEW OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION EQUALITY SCHEME TIMETABLE (copy letter previously circulated)

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED : That the Council agrees that individual political parties respond to the Consultation on Review of the Department of Education Equality Scheme Timetable.

HOUSING

2005/170 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE DEPARTMENT FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT RE: CONSULTATION ON THE PROPOSED TRANSFER OF MANAGEMENT OF THE SOCIAL HOUSING DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME TO THE NORTHERN IRELAND HOUSING EXECUTIVE (copy previously circulated)

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED : That the Council agrees that individual political parties respond to the Consultation on the Proposed Transfer of Management of the Social Housing Development Programme.

2005/171 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE HOUSING EXECUTIVE RE: THE NORTHERN IRELAND HOUSING MARKET – REVIEW AND PERSPECTIVES 2005/2006 (copy letter previously circulated)

Noted.

2005/172 : HOUSING EXECUTIVE'S RE: DRAFT CORPORATE PLAN 2005-2006, BUSINESS PLAN 2005-2006

Noted.

LEGAL

2005/173 : LEASE TO BE SIGNED BETWEEN CASTLEREAGH BOROUGH COUNCIL AND DUNDONALD VILLAGE REGENERATION GROUP IN RELATION TO ARTWORK – MOAT PARK, SUBJECT TO FINAL LEGAL APPROVAL

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED : That approval be given to sign the lease between Dundonald Village Regeneration Group and Castlereagh Borough Council in respect of Artwork at Moat Park, subject to final legal approval.

2005/174 : HOTEL DEVELOPMENT AT THE LEISURE PARK SITE

The Economic Development Manager outlined that the Council had previously agreed to lease land at the Leisure Park site to RJM Developments Ltd for the hotel development. She added that RJM Developments Ltd had since contacted the Council's solicitor seeking approval for the onward assignment of this land to RJM McKinney Ltd.

She indicated that the Council's solicitor had confirmed that consideration in the sum of £1.00 detailed in the assignment was correct and simply reflected the transfer from one McKinney company to another.

The Economic Development Manager sought approval to have the abovementioned deed of assignment signed on behalf of the Council and returned to the Council's solicitor.

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED : That approval be granted for the Council to sign the transfer of deed of assignment to RJ McKinney Ltd in respect of land at the Leisure Park site for the hotel development, and that it be forwarded onto the Council's solicitor.

FINANCE

2005/175 : ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

RESOLVED : That the Council approves the undernoted payments:

Capital Account (General)	£205,821.43
General Account (Salaries)	£375,885.88
General Account (Suppliers)	£832,786.38

REPORTS FROM OFFICERS

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

2005/176 : EVENT AT LISNABREENY BEING HELD ON SUNDAY 8 MAY 2005 TO COINCIDE WITH 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ENDING OF WW11 AND MARK THE ROLE OF THE SITE OF THE FORMER AMERICAN MILITARY CEMETERY

The Director of Administration & Community Services outlined that the Administration Manager had been in contact with the organiser of the Ulster Air Show who had advised her that it may be possible to arrange a 3-flight flyby by an American Mustang Single Seater Fighter Plane at the Council's event on 8 May 2005, costing in the region of £1,500.00.

She indicated that although funding of £8,000.00 for the project had been granted through the Homefront Recall Lottery Scheme, the fly past had not been budgeted for and would therefore need to be met out of the Civic budget. She confirmed that there were sufficient funds within the Civic budget to cover this additional cost.

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED : That the Council agrees to engage the American Mustang Single Seater Fighter Plane to carry out a fly past at the Lisnabreeny Event being held on Sunday 8 May 2005, with the cost in the region of £1,500.00 being met out of the Civic budget.

2005/177 : VISIT BY AMERICAN WAR VETERANS

The Director of Administration & Community Services advised Members that five American War Veterans from the 82nd Airborne Division would be in the Province during the week prior to the Lisnabreeny Event. She added that they would be keen to attend and had asked if the Council would consider covering their expenses for accommodation during the weekend of the event.

She confirmed that the Administration Manager had made preliminary enquiries with a local hotel and that a charge of £25.00 per person per night would be applicable. She added that the total cost of £250.00 could be met out of the Civic budget.

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED : That the Council agrees to meet the total cost of £250.00 for hotel accommodation for five American War Veterans attending the Lisnabreeny Event on 8 May 2005, with the costs being met out of the Civic budget.

2005/178 : ONE SMALL STEP CAMPAIGN (Minute No. A&CS/2005/18 refers)

Following a proposal from Alderman Peter Robinson, it was

RESOLVED : That consideration of the "One small Step" Campaign be referred back to the Administration & Community Services Committee.

2005/179 : MAYOR/DEPUTY MAYOR'S BUSINESS FOR MARCH 2005 (copy previously circulated)

Noted.

GENERAL

2005/180 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM ARDS BOROUGH COUNCIL RE: ITS RESOLUTION CALLING ON THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE REGIONAL RATE TO BE RENAMED AND REQUESTING THAT FUTURE RATES BILLS BE ITEMISED (copy previously circulated)

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED : That the Council writes to Ards Borough Council expressing support for its resolution calling for future rate bills to be itemised and for the regional rate to be renamed, advising however, that Castlereagh Borough Council was of the opinion that changing the name would not adequately clarify how the rates were broken down and that a greater explanation was required.

2005/181 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE NORTHERN IRELAND OFFICE RE: LAYING OF PUBLIC PROCESSIONS (AMENDMENT) (NI) ORDER 2005 AND PUBLICATION OF A CONSULTATION PAPER ON MEDIATION (copy letter previously circulated)

It was proposed by Alderman Peter Robinson, seconded by Councillor Beattie, and

RESOLVED : That the Chief Executive writes to the Northern Ireland Office outlining the Council's view on the Laying of Public Processions (Amendment) (NI) Order 2005 and Publication of the consultation paper on mediation.

2005/182 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL RE: ITS NOTICE OF MOTION IN RESPECT OF THE PARADES COMMISSION (copy previously circulated)

Noted.

2005/183 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE NIO, CRIMINAL JUSTICE POLICY DIVISION RE: CONSULTATION DOCUMENT “REVIEW OF THE SENTENCING FRAMEWORK IN NORTHERN IRELAND” (copy previously circulated)

Noted.

2005/184 : NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL IN THE REGIONAL TOWNS AND CITIES CONSULTATION REPORT (copy letter previously circulated)

Noted.

2005/185 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL FOR PEACE STUDIES RE: ‘ISLAND OF IRELAND PEACE WEEK’ (copy Previously circulated – referred from February Council meeting)

Noted.

2005/186 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE NORTHERN IRELAND COURT SERVICE RE: TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS FROM JUSTICES OF THE PEACE TO LAY MAGISTRATES (copy previously circulated)

Noted.

2005/187 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE REGISTRAR’S OFFICE RE: EASTER HOLIDAY ARRANGEMENTS (copy previously circulated)

Noted.

2005/188 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE NORTHERN IRELAND LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION SEEKING EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST IN MEMBERS PARTICIPATING IN TRAINING ON COUNCILLORS’ GENERAL BENEFITS (copy previously circulated)

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED : That the Council agrees to write to the Northern Ireland Local Government Association expressing an interest in participating in training on Councillors’ General Benefits.

2005/189 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILLORS : NORTHERN IRELAND REGION RE: MINUTES OF NAC MEETING HELD IN MAGHERAFELT ON 19 JANUARY 2005 (copy previously circulated)

Noted.

2005/190 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE ELECTORAL OFFICE FOR NORTHERN IRELAND RE: CONSULTATION ON A DRAFT REPORT OF AN EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT OF THE FUNCTION OF PREPARING AND MAINTAINING AN ACCURATE ELECTORAL REGISTER (copy previously circulated)

Noted.

2005/191 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM LORD RANA MBE JP RE: TSUNAMI CHILDREN'S GALA BALL (copy previously circulated)

The Chief Executive pointed out that with the forthcoming elections, Members may not be in a position to attend the above.

Councillor Ms Bunting suggested that each Member, including those not in attendance at this evening's meeting, be asked to consider donating attendance allowance in the sum of £25.00 to the Tsunami-Earthquake NI Appeal.

Members suggested that the Chief Executive and Directors also be asked if they wished to make a donation.

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED : That the Council agrees that each Member be contacted to ask if they wished to donate £25.00 out of their attendance allowance towards the Tsunami-Earthquake NI Appeal, and any Member not wishing to do so should contact the Chief Executive.

2005/192 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM ROYAL COLLEGE OF NURSING NORTHERN IRELAND RE: CONSULTATION ON SMOKE-FREE PUBLIC PLACES (copy previously circulated)

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED : That the Council writes advising the Royal College of Nursing Northern Ireland that Castlereagh Borough Council had already implemented a "No Smoking" Policy within all of its facilities.

2005/193 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, SOCIAL SERVICES AND PUBLIC SAFETY RE: REVIEW OF LYMPHOEDEMA SERVICES QUESTIONNAIRE (copy letter previously circulated)

Noted.

2005/194 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE DEPARTMENTS OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT RE: PROPOSED ACTION PROGRAMME MEASURES FOR THE PROTECTION OF NORTHERN IRELAND'S WATERS (copy letter previously circulated)

Noted.

2005/195 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT RE: GEOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION SYSTEM (copy previously circulated)

Noted.

2005/196 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE SOMME ASSOCIATION RE: 2005 SOMME PILGRIMAGE (copy previously circulated)

Noted.

2005/197 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE CONFEDERATION OF EUROPEAN COUNCILLORS : TWO DAY SEMINAR IN MULLINGAR "THE POTENTIAL FOR SPORT IN MODERN IRELAND" (copy previously circulated)

Noted.

REPORTS AND ANNUAL REPORTS

2005/198 : FIRE AUTHORITY FOR NORTHERN IRELAND RE: ANNUAL REPORT 2003/04 (copy letter previously circulated)

Noted.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

2005/199 : REGIONAL TRANSPORT STRATEGY

Alderman Peter Robinson expressed his concern that the government had dropped the proposal for the E-Way and the issue of rapid transport generally from the above plan.

He added that the Council had raised this matter on a number of occasions and had previously written enquiring why the Department was dragging its feet with this issue. He outlined that rapid transport had been a part of the Strategy from the outset and had been unanimously approved by the Assembly.

Following further discussion, it was

RESOLVED : That the Council agrees to write to the Department for Regional Development to enquire why E-Way and the rapid transport system generally had not been included in the Transport Network Strategy Plan, despite the fact that this had been unanimously supported by the Northern Ireland Assembly.

IN COMMITTEE

2005/200 : PRESENTATION BY REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE ROADS SERVICE : PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS FOR MILLTOWN/BELVOIR & PURDYSBURN/HOSPITAL ROAD JUNCTIONS

The Mayor welcomed Mr Graham Salmon, Mr Tom McCourt and Mr Rodney Moffett from the Roads Service.

Mr Salmon presented a simulated plan in respect of the above, depicting the existing traffic problems and a number of possible solutions.

Before leaving the meeting, the Roads Service representatives addressed a number of Members' queries.

Noted.

2005/201 : CASTLEREAGH HILLS GOLF CLUB

The Chief Executive sought nominations for the position of President of Castlereagh Hills Golf Club.

It was proposed by Councillor White, seconded by Councillor Beattie, and

RESOLVED : That the Council agrees that Alderman Peter Robinson be appointed as President of Castlereagh Hills Golf Club for a three-year period.

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT FROM THE DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION & COMMUNITY SERVICES (circulated at the meeting)

2005/202 : PROVISION OF PHOTOCOPIERS FOR THE CIVIC & ADMINISTRATION OFFICES

The Director of Administration & Community Services advised Members that tenders had been invited for the provision of the above for the period April 2005 to March 2008.

She indicated that ten tenders had been received and evaluated based on set criteria, and following an initial assessment, three tenders had been short-listed. She added that a demonstration of the copiers' capabilities and scanning

facilities had been carried out, and she detailed for Members the findings of the demonstration.

The Director of Administration & Community Services recommended that Calvert Office Equipment be awarded the tender as they offered the best value for money, whilst meeting the specifications requested. She confirmed that expenditure for this purchase had been included in the budgets for 2005/2006.

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED : That the Council agrees to award the tender for the provision of photocopiers within the Civic & Administration Offices to Calvert Office Equipment for the period 1st April 2005 to end of March 2008.

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

2005/203 : BOWLING CLUBS' HIRE AGREEMENT

The Director of Technical & Environmental Services outlined the detail in his report in respect of the above. He added that at a Special Technical & Environmental Services Committee meeting held on 21st March 2005, Officers had reported that information was still outstanding from the Council's Insurers. He indicated that it had been resolved to seek Council approval for the Committee to be granted with delegated authority to take the necessary decisions arising from consideration of all associated costing options, following receipt of all necessary information from the Council's Insurers.

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED : That, following receipt of all necessary information from the Council's Insurers, the Council agrees to grant delegated authority to the Technical & Environmental Services Committee to take the necessary decisions arising from consideration of all the costing options associated with Bowling Clubs' Hire Agreement.

**2005/204 : CASTLEREAGH HILLS GOLF CLUBHOUSE – SHORTLIST FOR
FURNITURE SUPPLIERS (consideration of Minute No. T&ES/2005/145
deferred from the “Minutes” section of the Agenda)**

The Director of Technical & Environmental Services Committee advised Members that the Chief Executive had received representation from a furniture supplier whose submission for inclusion on a select list had been received after the required closing date.

He added that the details had been forwarded to the Council's consultants for examination, assessment and comments, and he referred Members to a copy of the response. He asked Members' to consider the consultant's opinion that the submission could not be included in the select list.

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED : That the Council agrees that

- (a) as the particular supplier's submission had been received after the required closing date, it could not be included in the select list for the supply of furniture at Castlereagh Hills Golf Clubhouse.
- (b) Minute No. T&ES/.2005/145 be accepted as a true record.

2005/205 : LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS : 5 MAY 2005

The Chief Executive advised Members that the nomination papers would be available in the Civic Offices from lunchtime on Wednesday 30th March 2005. He outlined that the count would be held in Cregagh Youth & Community Centre/Cregagh Primary School on Monday 9th May 2005.

He asked Members to consider whether Council/Committee meetings should be suspended over the election period, and to also agree a date for the Annual General Meeting.

Alderman Peter Robinson proposed that the Annual General Meeting be held at 4.00 p.m. on Thursday 19th May, with the Council meeting being held at 7.00 p.m., and that Council/Committee meetings be suspended up until that date.

The Chief Executive outlined that during previous elections, the Council had established a working group which had been granted with executive powers to deal with high priority issues during the suspension of meetings. He sought Members' views as to whether working groups should be established and suggested that these comprise the Mayor and Chairman of the relevant Committee.

Councillor Long and Alderman Osborne expressed their concern that such an arrangement would exclude certain Parties whose Members did not hold a chairmanship of a Committee.

Alderman Peter Robinson proposed that working groups comprising the Mayor and Chairman of the relevant Committee be established, and this was seconded by Councillor Copeland.

Alderman Osborne commented that he had been an Elected Member for 12 years, and as he would not be standing this time, this would be his last Council meeting. He added that he would like to take the opportunity to pass on his appreciation and thanks for the support given to him by Council staff and Members over the years.

The Mayor stated that this would be her last Council meeting in the Chair and she thanked Members for all their support. She also thanked all those who had supported her in raising funds for her charities, and in particular, Councillors Sandford and Stevenson, as well as the Hydebank Young Offenders Centre.

Following further discussion, it was

RESOLVED : That the Council agrees that

- (a) Council/Committee meetings be suspended over the election period and would recommence on 19th May 2005.
- (b) the Annual General Meeting be held at 4.00 p.m. on Thursday 19th May 2005, with the Council meeting commencing at 7.00 p.m. A meal to be provided for Members at approximately 6.00 p.m.
- (c) working groups granted with executive powers be established, comprising the Mayor and Chairman of the relevant Committee, to deal with any high priority issues during the suspension of meetings.

2005/206 : INTER AGENCY BONFIRE GROUP

The Chairman of the above group, Councillor Drysdale indicated that attendance at meetings had dramatically increased, with over 50% representation by those involved in building the bonfires, including attendance at the last meeting by representatives from the Milltown area. He added that the bonfire representatives had put forward a number of excellent suggestions for ensuring tidier sites and a safer bonfire season, such as the provision of portable type fencing, hire of skips, etc. He outlined that they had also expressed a desire to organise cultural festivities on the 11th July.

He pointed out that the aim of the Bonfire Group was to attempt to avoid the problems and difficulties experienced by local residents during previous bonfire seasons. He outlined that in order to assist the bonfire representatives in organising cultural events would require a budget to be put in place. He added that to date, the only funding available had been a grant of £1,000.00 provided through the Community Relations Programme.

Councillor Drysdale asked if the Council could provide financial assistance, and that he would also be seeking assistance from the other agencies involved in the

Bonfire Group. He further sought the Council's assistance through the provision of an Officer to Minute the meetings.

The Director of Administration & Community Services advised that there may be funding available within the Community Relations budget and the Civic budget. She indicated that Council had previously agreed to hold a number of fun days on the 11th July, and funding had subsequently been set aside for this in the Civic budget. She stated that she would liaise with Mark Kent, the Area Community Worker in this respect, and ask him to report back to the Inter Agency Working Group.

Following a query from Alderman Mrs Robinson in respect of representation by Coronation Park residents on the Inter Agency Bonfire Group, Councillor Drysdale advised that he would ask the Area Community Worker to check the database and contact her.

Councillor Long congratulated those involved in the Bonfire Working Group, and he felt that although there were a number of problems yet to be resolved, great strides had been made in encouraging dialogue between the bonfire builders and the various agencies.

Councillor Hanvey congratulated Councillor Drysdale for all his efforts in attempting to minimise the disruption for residents during the bonfire season. He outlined that he had concerns, however, in respect of those companies and garages who were handing over pallets and tyres to the bonfire builders. He added that given the effects on the environment and possible health risks, if the Council had any powers for dealing with this matter, in terms of instigating legal proceedings against such businesses.

Councillor Drysdale indicated that he would take Councillor Hanvey's comments on board, and advised that they also had the support from the Northern Ireland Fire Brigade whose Officers visited the bonfire sites, providing safety advice on the various materials gathered.

Councillor Ms Bunting referred to the bonfire proposals from representatives in the Clonduff area which she felt should be used as a model of best practice. She added that they should be congratulated for their attempts to minimise disruption for residents.

Alderman Mrs Robinson then sought clarification in respect of the garden in the Coronation Park area. She advised that this had been a joint venture between the Council and the NIHE, and she sought an up date, in terms of the provision of planting and shrubbery by the Housing Executive and a plaque from the Council.

The Chief Executive indicated that he would arrange to have this matter investigated and report back to the Alderman.

RESOLVED : That the Council agrees that

- (a) the Area Community Worker ascertain if Coronation Park residents were included in the Inter Agency Bonfire Working Group database, and advise Alderman Mrs Robinson.
- (b) the Director of Administration & Community Services liaise with the Area Community Worker, with a view to identifying funding from the Civic/Community Relations budgets for the Inter Agency Bonfire Working Group cultural activities
- (c) the Chief Executive arrange for Officers to investigate the current position in respect of the garden in the Coronation Park area, in terms of the provision of planting and shrubbery by the Housing Executive and a plaque by the Council

2005/207 : COUNCIL DIARY

Councillor Beattie expressed his concern that on occasions, a number of meetings involving the Members were being convened on the same day. He proposed that in future Officers firstly liaise with Members' Services to ensure proper management of the Council's monthly diary of meetings.

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED : That the Council agrees that Officers must liaise with Members' Services staff when arranging meetings involving Councillors, to avoid a number of meetings being convened on the same day.

2005/208 : MAYOR/DEPUTY MAYOR'S ALLOWANCES

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED : That the Council agrees that the Mayor's allowance for the 2004/2005 financial year be increased by £3,000.00 and the Deputy Mayor's by £500.00.

There being no further business the meeting ended at 11.15 p.m.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

MAYOR