

CASTLEREAGH BOROUGH COUNCIL

Minutes of the proceedings of the Central Services Committee meeting held, in committee, in the Members' Corridor, Civic & Administrative Offices, Bradford Court, Upper Galwally, Castlereagh, BT8 6RB, on Monday 11 February 2008 at 7.30 p.m.

PRESENT:- Councillor Mrs AM Beattie (in the chair)

Councillor J Beattie
Councillor J Bunting
Councillor M Chambers
Councillor D Drysdale (out at 8.50 pm)
Councillor C Hall
Councillor B Harvey
Councillor R Hughes MBE
Councillor T Jeffers
Councillor G Robinson
Councillor L Walker

IN ATTENDANCE:- Director of Administration & Community Services,
Administration Manager, Sports Development Officer,
Community Development Officer, Assistant Members'
Services Officer

APOLOGIES:- Apologies were recorded on behalf of Alderman Rice

**TABLED : MINUTES OF THE CENTRAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON 14 January 2008 (copy previously circulated)**

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

CS/2008/23 : FREEDOM OF THE BOROUGH – NIHE (Minute No CS/2008/01 refers)

The Mayor wished to record her personal thanks to those officers responsible for organising the Freedom of the Borough ceremony, which had been a very successful event. She mentioned in particular the Administration Manager and the Civic Events Officer for their commitment and hard work. The Chairperson of the Committee echoed the Mayor's thanks.

The Administration Manager reported that the costs for the quartet playing at the Freedom ceremony had been £500 and not £400 as reported at the January meeting of the Committee and sought approval to make the payment accordingly.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the Committee thank the officers involved in the successful organisation of the Freedom of the Borough Service and, in particular, the Administration Manager and the Civic Events Officer.
- (b) That the Committee give retrospective approval to payment of an additional £100 to the Quartet providing the music for the Freedom of the Borough ceremony.

CS/2008/24 : 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LA MON BOMBING (Minute No CS/2008/03 refers)

The Mayor expressed concern over media coverage of controversy regarding those invited to the anniversary service of the La Mon bombing. She confirmed that Council officers were organising the event in accordance with the La Mon Committee's instructions that it should be a private, low-key event for Committee members and families and Castlereagh Borough Council Members and staff. The invitations were from the La Mon Committee. She therefore failed to understand why there had been any controversy in the local papers. The Director of Administration and Community Services indicated that she had given a radio interview to clarify that this event was being organised in accordance with the requests of the La Mon Committee.

The Mayor urged as many Members as possible to attend the anniversary service.

Noted.

CS/2008/25 : MONEYREAGH COMMUNITY CENTRE (Minute No. CS/2008/21 refers)

The Director of Administration & Community Services advised that the Capital Projects Officer had been unable to be present at this meeting but would attend the next meeting of the Committee.

Noted.

**REPORT FROM ADMINISTRATION MANAGER – SECTION 1 -
ADMINISTRATION MATTERS**

CS/2008/26 : LEGAL COSTS – APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS

In accordance with agreed procedures, the Director of Administration & Community Services tabled a number of legal invoices for retrospective approval and asked Members to note that these invoices had to be cleared in order that they could be put through by year-end in order to avoid the carry over amounts being lost under new audit rules.

The Director reported the legal fees from King & Gowdy, all of which were inclusive of VAT, were as follows:

Aborted sale of site at Cregagh Park	£3,734.36
Proposed sale of site at Moat Park	£3,776.06
Moneyreagh Community Centre	£8,235.00 (interim account)
Acquisition of sight lines at Hanwood	£2,350.00 (interim account)
Cregagh Youth & Community Facility	£1,179.00 (interim account)
Enler House, Dundonald	£1,175.00 (interim account)

Members were reminded that they had requested further details regarding a legal invoice relating to the right of way at Gilnahirk and noted correspondence from King & Gowdy dated 29th January 2008 giving a breakdown of the fees (copy previously circulated).

The Director sought approval for the payment of two invoices from Tughans Solicitors in connection with Castlereagh Borough Council v Lisburn Leisure Limited, as follows:

Counsel's fees due to Mark Horner QC	£1,938.75 (inc VAT)
Professional fees due to Tughans	£923.00 (inc VAT)

RESOLVED:

- (a) That retrospective approval be given to payment of legal fees from King & Gowdy as detailed above.
- (b) That correspondence from King & Gowdy dated 29th January 2008 giving a breakdown of fees relating to the right of way at Gilnahirk be noted.
- (c) That approval be given to the payment of two invoices from Tughans as detailed above relating to Castlereagh Borough Council v Lisburn Leisure Limited.

CS/2008/27 : WEDDINGS AT OUTSIDE DESIGNATED VENUES

The Director of Administration & Community Services reminded the Committee that an application from La Mon House Hotel in respect of weddings at outside

designated venues had been approved. She reported that the Council had received a further request from the hotel to extend the licence to the new Riverview Suite. Members were advised that, in conjunction with the Borough Inspector, the Registrar had reviewed the paperwork and recommended that the extension to the licence be approved.

RESOLVED: That the Committee approve the extension to licence of the new Riverview Suite at La Mon House Hotel with effect from 1 March 2008 until the current licence ends.

CS/2008/28 : CIVIC BUILDING – REPAIRS AND DEFECTS (Minutes No CS/2007/281 AND CS/2007/242 refer)

The Administration Manager updated the Committee on negotiations relating to repairs required to the lightening conductor, coping stones and rear gates.

She advised that, with regard to the lightening conductor, the original company that had installed it had agreed to come back and carry out the necessary repairs to bring it up to British Standards.

The Administration Manager reported that the company responsible for the coping stones were claiming that the movement was due to lack of planned annual maintenance on the stonework rather than bad workmanship. Members felt that, even without annual maintenance, the coping stones should not have required such extensive repair within eight years of installation. Members considered whether to pursue the matter legally, authorise the original company to complete the repairs or seek quotations from other companies.

The Manager reported that no one was accepting responsibility for the problems with the rear gates and that the costs of repairing them had been quoted at £2,174. The architects were recommending that the original supplying company carry out these repairs.

After discussion it was

RESOLVED:

- (a) that the Committee welcomed the successful outcome to negotiations whereby the original company had agreed to bring the lightening conductor up to British Standards.
- (b) that the Committee ask officers to obtain quotations from other companies for the repairs needed to the coping stones.
- (c) that the Committee approve the repair to the rear gates at a cost of £2,174 to be carried out by the supplying company.

- (d) that, given the attitude adopted by the companies concerned with the gates and the coping stones, no further references should be given in relation to workmanship

CS/2008/29 : PROCUREMENT ISSUES

The Director of Administration & Community Services reported that Members had indicated that they wished the proposed Corporate Procurement section to be based within the Administration Department. She advised that the Senior Financial & Management Accountant would be making a presentation to the next meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee and that this would include a recommendation to recruit a Procurement Officer on a self-financing basis.

It was recommended that Members defer any further action in this matter until after the presentation had been made to the Finance & General Purposes Committee and until staffing resources had been agreed.

Concerns were expressed about some aspects of the proposed Corporate Procurement Section including whether centralising of procurement activity would create a bottle neck within the Council. Councillor Beattie however felt that the new computer system would overcome that problem. The Mayor pointed out that the Council had got the opportunity to introduce the system on a pilot basis and that it would eventually be rolled out to all local authorities.

Councillor Bunting made the point that, as this was a pilot, there would be an ongoing review of its strengths and weaknesses. She expressed concern that there had not been adequate communication between the different Council departments about the introduction of the new system particularly as the proposed date for implementation was 1st April 2008 and the new IT system had not even been reviewed by the administration staff.

Councillor Beattie suggested that it would be useful if Consilium organised a demonstration of the procurement system for all Members and Officers.

RESOLVED:

- (a) that Members' concerns about aspects of the proposal to introduce a new procurement system be brought to the attention of the Finance & General Purposes Committee
- (b) that a demonstration of the new procurement computer system be arranged for Members and officers.
- (c) that the Director of Administration & Community Services and the Administration Manager attend the Finance & General Purposes

Committee meeting to hear the presentation being made by the Senior Financial & Management Accountant.

CS/2008/30 : HEATING – CIVIC OFFICES

The Administration Manager reported that, following a problem with heating in the civic offices and an inspection by the maintenance contractors, the Council's M&E Engineer had identified that a heating pump in the plant room needed to be replaced.

She reported that the cost of replacing the pump and refitting a new one was approximately £600 and she confirmed, that although this expenditure had not been budgeted for in the current financial estimates, there were monies available to cover this expense.

RESOLVED: That the Council install a replacement heating pump in the civic offices at a cost of approximately £600.

CS/2008/31 : SEATING IN THE FUNCTION SUITE

The Administration Manager referred to complaints by Members regarding the seating in the function suite. She advised that quotes had been received of £2,300 + VAT for 24 upholstered chairs and £788.75 + VAT for 24 stackable chairs and accompanying trolley. The Director of Administration & Community Service advised that the storage facilities in the function suite would not be large enough to accommodate the larger upholstered chairs. Members felt that the stackable chair would be an improvement on the current chairs in the function suite.

After discussion it was

RESOLVED: That officers be asked to bring some of the stackable chairs to the next meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting so that Members could test them.

REPORT FROM ADMINISTRATION MANAGER – SECTION 2 - CIVIC MATTERS

CS/2008/32 : THE MARINE SOCIETY & SEA CADETS

Members considered correspondence from the Marine Society and Sea Cadets requesting use of Council facilities to host their Annual Conference on Saturday 15 March 2008 (copy previously circulated).

The Administration Manager advised that, although the Society was requesting use of the function suite free of charge, it would be meeting all other associated expenses and that the Council's caterers would be engaged to provide lunch.

The Manager also advised that the Society had supported the Council at its Armistice Day Service on an annual basis for a number of years and had also attended other civic events when asked, e.g. Battle of Trafalgar.

RESOLVED: That the Marine Society and Sea Cadets be allowed free use of the function suite for their annual conference on 15 March 2008 in lieu of payment for services provided at various civic events.

CS/2008/33 : LA MON SERVICE OF COMMEMORATION – UPDATE.

Members were reminded that the La Mon Committee would be holding a Service of Commemoration to mark the 30th Anniversary of the La Mon bombing in the Function Suite of the Civic Offices on Sunday 17th February 2008 at 3.00pm. The Administration Manager briefed the Committee on the format for the ceremony and advised that a low key format, rather than a full Church service, had been requested by members of the La Mon Committee.

She reported that over 100 invitations had been extended to the Committee Members, family, friends, Members of Council and Senior Management Team to attend both the service and refreshments afterwards.

Noted

CS/2008/34 : PURCHASE OF NEW ALDERMAN'S ROBE

Members were reminded that, at the Special Council Meeting to mark the retirement from Council of the Right Hon Peter Robinson MP MLA, Council had presented him with the Alderman's robe that he had worn for over 30 years.

The Administration Manager advised that quotations had been sought for the purchase of a new Alderman's robe from the suppliers Ede and Ravenscroft as follows:-

Maroon all-wool panama, lined with choice musquash fur on facings and sleeves £1,195 + VAT

Using artificial fur £995.00 + VAT
(Delivery 8 weeks)

Members were asked to consider the two options quoted above and to give approval to officers to order an Alderman's robe, with the cost being met from the civic budget. The Administration Manager confirmed that at present there were

monies available to cover this purchase, although this had not been included at the time of setting the financial estimates and therefore it might result in an overspend.

After discussion it was proposed by Councillor Chambers, seconded by Councillor J Beattie and

RESOLVED: that the Committee approve the purchase of a new Alderman's robe with artificial fur from Ede and Ravenscroft at a cost of £995.00 + VAT

CS/2008/35 : WATERLOO BALL

The Administration Manager reminded Members that at the Council meeting in December it had been agreed that the Council would reserve two tables at the Waterloo Ball. She advised that the cost of two tables was £3,000 and that she did not have enough money in the civic budget to cover this because of the Auditor's refusal to allow carried over funding from the previous year.

Councillor Beattie explained that he had had discussions with the Director of Finance and, while this money had not been allowed to be carried over and 'ring-fenced', it had been returned to the District Fund. The administration department would therefore be allowed to go into overspend to incur the associated expenditure.

During discussions, the Mayor clarified that she had taken a table and the Deputy Mayor had taken a table and therefore that the Council should only be covering one table from the civic budget. It was noted that this could result in an overspend within that budget.

RESOLVED: That, in addition to the tables taken by the Mayor and Deputy Mayor, the Council take one table at the Waterloo Ball and it was noted that this could result in an overspend in the civic budget.

CS/2008/36 : SECRETARY OF STATE'S GARDEN PARTY

The Administration Manager reported that an invitation had been received from the Northern Ireland Office to the Secretary of State's garden party which would be taking place in May 2008. She advised that the Council had been allocated 24 places and that separate invitations would go out to the Mayor and Chief Executive. She stated that the theme for the garden party would be "Northern Ireland – A New Beginning". It was noted that replies had been requested by 14 March 2008.

After discussion it was

RESOLVED: That Members should submit the names of any one they wished to nominate for the 24 allocated invitations to the Secretary of State's garden party and the Mayor and Chair of the Central Services Committee would finalise the list of invitees.

STAFF IN COMMITTEE

REPORT FROM THE DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION & COMMUNITY SERVICES – SECTION 3 – COMMUNITY SERVICE MATTERS

CS/2008/39 : UPDATE ON ENLER PROJECT

A copy of a letter received from Landmark East, confirming that they were now expecting the proposed Enler development to proceed as originally planned, had been previously circulated.

Members noted that, for reasons outside Landmark East's control, they were reporting that the various delays had led to a significant increase in costs and a sense of frustration among many stakeholders. Landmark East requested that all stakeholders ensure a speedy resolution of all outstanding matters in order to avoid further delay. The Director of Administration & Community Services indicated that she intended to meet with Landmark East over the next few weeks in order to finalise the Council's requirements. She also felt it appropriate to stress the Council's view that the original amount agreed for the annual lease was non-negotiable until the next due rental review period.

Members also noted a letter received from the Minister for Health & Social Services and Public Safety dated 23rd January 2008 regarding this matter (copy previously circulated).

Noted.

CS/2008/40 : UPDATE ON DOWNSHIRE HALL

The Director of Administration & Community Services reported that, as the Council had been unsuccessful in its lottery application to refurbish the Downshire Hall, she had asked the Capital Projects Officer to prepare a short report on what was required to bring the building up to an acceptable standard. She advised that it was intended that the officer would be in attendance at the next meeting of Committee to present his recommendation for the building.

RESOLVED: that the Capital Project Officer attend the next meeting to present his recommendations for Downshire Hall.

CS/2008/41 : PROPOSED ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE 2008 COMMUNITY SERVICES' SUMMER SCHEMES

For Members' information, the Director of Administration & Community Services detailed the various summer scheme recommendations, which would enable arrangements to proceed. The Committee considered the recommendations and it was

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the Summer Scheme continue to operate for the 5 to 11 year age group as it had in recent years. (Child's age as at 30th June this year).
- (b) That the scheme operate on a single session basis similar to last year, running from 11.00am – 3.00pm, with a half hour break for the children to have a supervised lunch.
- (c) That the scheme operate on a Borough wide basis at the following venues:
 - Castlereagh Community Centre (Register 60/65 children)
 - Cregagh Community Centre (Register 100 children)
 - Tullycarnet Community Centre (Register 60 children)
 - Ballyoran Community Centre (Register 50 children)
 - Gilnahirk Presbyterian Church Hall (Register 100 children)
 - Moneyreagh Community Centre (New venue) (Register 100 children)
 - Ballybeen Activity Centre (Register 60/70 children)
 - Braniel Methodist or Braniel School (Register 80/90 children)
 - Newtownbreda Primary (Register 100 children)
 - Central (Register 100 children (Former Cross Community Scheme – Leadhill Primary School, Knockbreda Primary School & St Bernard's Primary School)
- (d) that numbers would be adjusted accordingly regarding children with disabilities and that officers could seek alternative venues if hire costs were dramatically increased or venues were not available.
- (e) That the following recommended charges for 2008 be approved

	2006	2007	2008
Per child per week	£10.50	£10.50	£10.75
Per family per week	£21.00	£21.00	£21.60
Daily charge	£2.50	£2.50	£2.60

- (f) That, to ensure the Council could attain a reasonable standard of leader in competition with other Councils and schemes, it was noted that the following rates of pay had been approved at last month's committee.

	2007 In House	2008 In House
Co-Ordinator		
Leader in Charge (Qualified)	£7.75	£8.00
Leader	£6.65	£6.75

- (g) that it be noted that, if staff were already employed by the Council (e.g. casuals) and were under 18 years of age, they would be permitted to work on the Summer Scheme but would only be paid the casual rate and that no new staff would be permitted to work on the scheme under the age of 18 years.
- (h) that Leaders in Charge would be requested to work an extra 30 minutes each day to complete any paperwork necessary.
- (i) that, in order to allow for interviews and vetting to be carried out in line with required procedures for those working with children, volunteers would be sought by public advertisement at the same time as leaders
- (j) that, in line with last year, the age limit for volunteers be kept at 16 years to encourage local young people to apply and that a requirement for volunteer leaders would be those who have qualified or who were currently being trained as Trainee Youth Leaders through Education and Library Board courses.
- (k) that at the end of the scheme volunteers would receive gift vouchers up to a maximum of £50 (amount depending on the number of hours worked) and a letter reference).
- (l) that the Summer Scheme Co-Ordinator would register with V.S.B (possible recruitment of voluntary staff for scheme).
- (m) That all volunteers should be PECS checked.
- (n) that advertisements for staff be placed in the paper on or before the end of April 2008 in order to allow proper checks to be carried out prior to staff starting work on the Scheme
- (o) that, as recommended and to meet NSPCC guidelines, the number of staff at each scheme be in a ratio of 1:10.

- (p) that, should a full staffing complement not be achieved by the time of registration, places available at each Centre would be reduced in line with the above ratio of 1:10.
- (q) that that the proposed dates for the Summer Scheme would be Monday 28th July 2008 – Friday 15th August 2008.
- (r) that transport information be presented at the May meeting when the full schedule of trips had been drafted and costings obtained.
- (s) that it be noted that staff were currently reviewing programmes and would be obtaining costs for a number of in centre and out of centre activities and that Community Services staff would also be contacting the Leisure Services Department to obtain a package quotation for the relevant summer scheme activities. It was further noted that full costs would be reported to a future meeting of committee.

CS/2008/42 : COMMUNITY FESTIVAL FUNDING

As requested at a previous meeting of the Committee, the Director of Administration & Community Service provided details of the various festivals funded by the Events Northern Ireland Company (copy previously circulated).

She indicated that she had been asked to clarify if the Council's contribution could be 'in kind', i.e. staff support time to administer the fund, assist community groups with the festival programmes etc. The Director reported that the Department of Culture Arts & Leisure had now confirmed that, within the guidance notes, it was permissible for a proportion of the match funding to be in kind but that it was expected that this should not exceed 10% of the total grant allocation (i.e. approximately £1,500 total).

The Director advised that match funding for community festivals had been included in the Council's estimates for 2008/09.

After discussion it was proposed by Councillor G Robinson and

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the above information be noted.
- (b) that, if local groups did not come forward to use the full allocation of funding for community festivals, then the Council should identify local needs and opportunities and facilitate using the funding for this purpose.

CS/2008/43 : AGE CONCERN – RAISING FUNDS FOR OLDER PEOPLE

Members considered a copy of a letter received from Age Concern outlining a special awards scheme to recognise older people who have provided a positive contribution within their local community (copy previously circulated).

Members were asked to promote the award scheme and/or identify any possible nominees.

Noted.

CS/2008/44 : ASTRO TURF PITCH AT CREGAGH YOUTH & COMMUNITY CENTRE

The Director of Administration & Community Services referred to the ongoing problems associated with the astro turf pitch at Cregagh Youth & Community Centre. She advised that, as requested, the Council's solicitors had been asked to write to the Board in this regard and that an acknowledgement had been received from the Board stating that the matter had been referred to their legal section. She stated that the Board would be putting forward their proposals shortly as to how to take the matter forward but that, as yet, it was unclear whether they intended to take further legal action against the contractor concerned.

The Director advised Members that the Capital Projects Officer and the Facilities Officer would be carrying out an inspection of the Centre to draw up a snagging list with the intention of getting any necessary work completed and the costs deducted from the amount outstanding to the Board. Councillor Robinson asked that the snagging list be presented to the Committee before handover of funding.

RESOLVED: that the Capital Projects Officer and the Facilities Officer draw up a snagging list for Cregagh Youth & Community Centre and that this should be brought to the Committee for approval.

CS/2008/45 : UPDATE ON MONEYREAGH COMMUNITY FACILITY

The Director of Administration & Community Services advised that she had recently attended a site meeting and had been very impressed at progress made to date. She indicated that it was now anticipated that the handover date would be late March/early April. The Director indicated that it was planned to assign existing Council staff to the new Centre in order to begin the ordering of equipment etc. and to develop the Centre programme and timetable. She advised that it was intended that the building would be fully operational to accommodate the 2008 Community Services Summer Scheme.

Councillor Robinson suggested that the best way to promote the Centre would be to hold an official opening event.

The Director referred to a letter from SEELB Youth Services Office regarding the usage of the new Centre (copy previously circulated) and sought Members' approval to enter into negotiations in this regard.

The Director also advised that the contractor had reported that there had been a further break-in at the complex during early January when a number of expensive items of equipment and she had some concerns that there might be security issues in the future.

After discussion it was

RESOLVED:

- (a) that approval be given to the redeployment of staff to deal with ordering of equipment/development of the Centre programme
- (b) that the Director be authorised to enter into negotiations with SEELB regarding usage of the Centre for youth purposes
- (c) That officers come back to the Committee with possible dates for an official opening of the Centre

CS/2008/46 : CROSSNACREEVY PLAYGROUND (Minute No T&ESC/2008/28 refers)

The Director of Administration & Community Services reported that the matter of the playground had been recently discussed at the January meeting of the Technical Services Committee when it had been resolved that the Community Services Worker should consult with local residents regarding the bonfire although she had some concerns in this regard.

The Director confirmed that a joint agency meeting had been convened in December 2007 by Alderman Mrs Iris Robinson MLA to deal with the problems associated with the current playground including a refurbishment programme using Community Safety monies.

Councillor J Beattie confirmed that Councillors from the area had been dealing with this matter. Councillor AM Beattie confirmed that the T&ES minute related to the Community Services officer working with the Inter Agency Bonfire Group in this regard

Noted.

CS/2008/47 : CARRY OVER OF 'RING-FENCED' MONIES FROM PREVIOUS FINANCIAL YEAR

The Director of Administration & Community Services reported that the Department was disappointed to note that a number of monies, ring-fenced and carried over for use during this financial year, had been disallowed by the Auditors. She advised that these were as follows:-

- 80k job evaluation accrual
- 25k insurance carry forward (for civic events)
- 21k central services salary carry forward
- 10k building repairs carry forward
- £9480 VCU carry forward
- £8000 single status accrual
- £1496 Health & Safety accrual
- Totalling 155k

The Director reported that officers had just been made aware of this development, which would have further implications for current budgets, e.g. Items had been purchased on the basis that this money was available for use during the 2007/2008 financial year.

The Director indicated that she understood that a report had also been taken to the Finance & General Purposes Committee in this regard but she felt it was important to bring the matter to the attention of the Central Services Committee, particularly where it affected budgets within its control, e.g. Insurances, civic building repair etc.

RESOLVED: that the Council allow for overspends where necessary to be written back to District Funds

CS/2008/48 : CAB – LOSS OF LAPTOP

Members were advised that, shortly before Christmas, a laptop belonging to one of the Castlereagh advisors had been stolen from a private car. She advised that CAB had written to the Council advising that, while they were confident that the data was encrypted, they felt it important to report the loss, given that it contained files and details of residents from Castlereagh, who used the local advice service. We understand that the CAB was also circulating a letter to all concerned advising them of this loss.

The Mayor advised that CAB had now reviewed security arrangements and laptops would not be left in unattended cars. The Director of Administration & Community Services indicated that she would be speaking to representatives from CAB and would clarify whether the data had been encrypted.

Noted.

(Councillor Drysdale left at 8.50 pm)

CS/2008/49 : PROPOSAL FOR COSTS OF TRAINING FOR SPORTS & HEALTH PROGRAMME

The Director of Administration & Community Services advised Members of a proposed training programme to commence in the near future. She indicated that two beneficial courses had been sourced which could be paid for out of the training budget from Sports Council.

Members were advised that the first was a Weight Management Course to include nutrition and guidance on how best to advise people on lifestyle and that this would be helpful in all projects from the Well Woman's programmes to the Older and Active programme. It would be run on 13th and 14th March and was based in Belvoir at a cost of £250.

The Director reported that the second course was Aqua Aerobics, which was more specialised than ordinary aerobics and was for older people and those who had injuries or suffered from conditions that might stop them doing high impact activities. It would run on 1st, 8th, 15th April meaning that others participating in the Well Being programmes, planned for April-May, could use it.

Members were advised that the cost for this course was £250, ensuring that the allocated £500 training budget would be used by May. The Director indicated that this was Sports Council funded and would be at no cost to the Council.

RESOLVED: that the Committee approve the training courses detailed above which were 100% funded by the Sports Council and would be at no cost to the Council.

CS/2008/50 : PROPOSAL FOR COSTS FOR NEW AGE KURLING LEAGUE

The Director of Administration & Community Services reported on a proposal to run a New Age Kurling league for local people, costs of which would be as follows:

Facility Hire : £13.20 per hour x 2 Hours = £26.40 x 6 = £52.80

Coaching Costs : £30 x 6 weeks = £180

Light Refreshments : £5 per week x 6 weeks = £30

Total = £262.80

The Director advised that the tournament would take place each Monday from 11am-1pm in Cregagh Community Centre and, as it was 100% funded by the Sports Council, there would be no cost to the Council.

RESOLVED: That the Committee approve the above project with associated facility hire and coaching costs.

CS/2008/51 : PROPOSAL FOR COSTS FOR CREGAGH GIRLS' DROP IN CENTRE

The Director of Administration & Community Services reported that Cregagh Community Centre had a drop in centre for young girls aged between 13 and 17 years of age that was run on a Thursday night between 7.30pm and 9.30pm and had been very successful to date. She advised that it needed more funding in order to make it sustainable.

The Director reported that the Community Sports Officer had secured a grant for a 12-week programme, starting Thursday 7th February, to include drug, alcohol and sexual health education as well as physical activity such as aerobics. The programme would also include beauty, hair and discussions on current affairs. She stated that this club would take place each Thursday from 7.30pm-9.30pm, in Cregagh Community Centre.

The Director advised that costs, including hire of the room and any tea, coffee or resources/instructors needed, were as follows:

$$£40 \text{ per night} \times 12 \text{ weeks} = £480$$

RESOLVED: that the Committee approve the above project with associated facility hire and operating costs and noted that it was 100% funded by Castlereagh Community Safety Partnership.

CS/2008/52 : CREGAGH BOYS' DROP IN CENTRE

The Director of Administration & Community Services reported that Cregagh Community Centre had a drop in centre for young girls aged between 13 and 17 years of age. She advised that the Centre Manager had been approached by several boys of the same age from the local area to run the same project for them on a different day, possibly a Friday afternoon between 3.30pm and 5.30pm.

The Director indicated that the Community Sports Development Officer had secured funding from the DPP to fund a 12-week programme, starting Friday 15th February, to include drug, alcohol and sexual health education as well as physical activity such as Boxercise. The programme would also include careers advice, driving theory and discussions on current affairs.

She advised that costs, including hire of the room and any tea, coffee or resources/instructors needed, were as follows:

£40 per night x 12 weeks = £480

RESOLVED: that the Committee approve the above project with associated facility hire and operating costs and noted that it was 100% funded by Castlereagh District Policing Partnership.

CS/2008/53 : PROPOSAL FOR TRANSFER OF FUNDS FROM ONE BUDGET TO ANOTHER

The Director of Administration & Community Services reported that the Community Sports Development Officer would like to inform Members of the following proposal to transfer £2000 from Administration Costs to Advertising and Promotions in order to run more community projects and programmes within Cregagh, Ballybeen and Tullycarnet.

The Director advised that this was being recommended because the total allocation for administration costs would not be utilised by May and it would be better for the local communities to benefit rather than sending it back to the Sports Council.

RESOLVED: That the Committee approve the proposal to carry out the above transfer and noted that it was 100% funded by Sports Council and would be of no cost to the Council.

CS/2008/54 : PROPOSAL FOR WELL WOMEN'S PROJECT

The Director of Administration & Community Services reported on the following project being proposed by the Community Sports Development Officer:

CASTLEREAGH WELL WOMANS PROJECT

WEEK	ACTIVITY	TALK/GUEST SPEAKER	COSTING
1	Intro and Lifestyle chat.	Kelly Dougan	Facility Hire £26.40
2	Walking	Enjoy Food...Fit for Life. Barbara Redmond	Facility Hire £26.40
3	Pilates	Body Massage	Instructor £30 Therapist £30 Facility Hire £26.40
4	Swiss Ball	Reflexology	Instructor £30 Therapist £30 Facility Hire £26.40
5	Aerobics	Cancer Awareness Presentation.	Instructor = Me, No Cost.

		Catherine Morrow Action Cancer	No Cost for presentation. Facility Hire £26.40
6	Yoga	Indian Head Massage	Instructor £30 Therapist £30 Facility Hire £26.40

The Director advised that the project would take the form of 2 hour sessions, once a week for 6 weeks in Ballybeen, Tullycarnet and Cregagh commencing late March/early May. She indicated that the costs per programme were as follows:

Facility Hire -	£158.40
Instructor Costs -	£90.00
Therapist Costs -	£90.00
Fruit & Water -	£50.00
Advertising..ie leaflets -	£50.00
TOTAL -	£438.40

The Director advised that the Community Sports Development Officer recommended that £900 be transferred from the Special Projects budget to the Advertising and Promotions Sports budget in order to run the Well Women's projects in all 3 areas. The remaining schemes would be met out of the Sports Council funded budget.

RESOLVED: that the Committee approve the proposal as outlined above and the transfer of £900 from the Special Projects budget to the Advertising and Promotions Sports budget in order to run the project in 3 areas.

GOOD RELATIONS MATTERS

CS/2008/55 : INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY EVENT 6TH MARCH 2008 – UPDATE

The Director of Administration & Community Services reported that, in addition to the agreed spend approved last month, a further amount of £100 was requested in order to add Ulster Scots Dance into the programme.

RESOLVED: that the Committee approve £100 to cover costs of Bright Lights Dancers at the International Women's Day Event, costs to be covered from the Cultural Activities budget.

CS/2008/56 : DEMOCRACY DAY EVENT – UPDATE TO MINUTE NO. CS/2007/215

The Director of Administration & Community Services reported that this event inviting young people from local schools had been rescheduled for 4th March 2008. She stated that Members had been sent advance information regarding the event and were welcome to participate and that anyone wishing to attend should contact the Good Relations Officer.

Noted.

CS/2008/57 : INTERGENERATIONAL PROJECT

The Director of Administration & Community Services reported that this project would involve two groups, i.e. 15 pupils from Knockbreda Secondary School and 15 members from Braniel Senior Citizens Club, travelling to the Somme Centre where they would take part in a tour concluding with a light lunch and further discussions between the two groups. The Director advised that this would be used as a means of developing trust and building friendships on an intergenerational level within the Braniel area. She indicated that the event would be recorded by Best Cellars Collective and copies would be made for each of the groups as a memoir of the day.

Members were advised that costs would be as follows:

Entrance to Somme:	
15 children	£37.50
15 Senior Citizens	£48.75
Transport	£160.00
Lunch - 33 people	£264.00
Recording and DVD production	£140.00
Total	£650.25

RESOLVED: that the Committee approve £650.25 towards costs of the intergenerational project in Braniel with costs being covered from the capacity and training budget in the good relations budget.

CS/2008/58 : CONFLICT MANAGEMENT TRAINING FOR COMMUNITY GROUPS AND CBC STAFF

The Director of Administration & Community Services reported that it was proposed to host 4 half day training sessions on Conflict Management in centres in the following areas: Belvoir, Cregagh, Tullycarnet and in Council offices. These would be open to all community groups to attend and places would be allocated on a first come basis.

The Director advised that the training would be facilitated by the WEA, which had specifically developed this type of training for local communities. The course

would provide skills to the attendees on how to identify and deal with conflict and resolution.

Members were advised that costs were as follows:

Belvoir Activity Centre -18/3/08		
Room hire		£42.80
Facilitator		£200.00
Lunch	4.26x15=	£63.90
Total		£306.70

Cregagh Community Centre - 19/3/08		
Room hire		£27.60
Facilitator		£200.00
Lunch	4.26x15	£63.90
Total		£291.50

Tullycarnet Community Centre - 20/3/08		
Room hire		£27.60
Facilitator		£200.00
Lunch	4.26x15	£63.90
Total		£291.50

Transport for all events		£60.00
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Civic Centre for CBC staff:		
Facilitator		£200.00
Lunch	4.26x15	£63.90
Total		£263.90

Grand Total		£1213.60
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Councillor Robinson requested that the Ballybeen community groups be included in this project.

RESOLVED: that the Committee approve expenditure of £1213.60 for conflict management training, costs to be covered from the capacity and training budget in the Good Relations budget and that the Ballybeen community groups be included in the training programme.

CS/2008/59 : DREAM SCHEME MURAL PROJECT – BRANIEL

The Director of Administration & Community Services reported that the Dream scheme was a project group, which aimed to engage 15 young people between 13 and 18 years of age in positive activity within the Branial estate.

She advised that the Dream scheme and the Council's Good Relations Officer proposed to paint a new mural on the rear wall of the doctor's surgery at Braniel's shopping complex which was presently covered in paramilitary and racial graffiti.

The Director advised that the project would involve the young people from the Dream scheme designing the new mural alongside a professional graffiti artist. They would seek the approval of surgery staff, Council, shopkeepers and residents before the mural commenced.

Costs	
Hours-2 full days and 2 evening sessions	£1,200
Materials paint and spray-paint	£600
Sealant	£650
Paint for sides of building	£150
Paint for railings	£200
Protective suits and gloves	£100
Refreshments	£200
Travel and design	£150
Grand total	£3,250

RESOLVED: that the Committee approve in principle this expenditure, which would be covered from the Contentious Issues budget within the Good Relations programme and that officers be asked to provide further information regarding professional artist's fees.

CS/2008/60 : MURAL PROJECT - BELVOIR

Members were advised that, as a follow on to the mural project completed at the Boys Brigade hut in Belvoir, residents and the BB headquarters had expressed an interest in completing another mural project in Belvoir in partnership with the Dream scheme group. This time the remaining 3 walls of the hut would be painted and a mural provided.

The Director of Administration & Community Services reported that this project would take place during the Easter holidays when the 15 young people would work with the graffiti artist to design the mural and paint it onto the wall. She indicated that costs would be as follows:

Hours-2 full days and 2 evening sessions	£1,200
Materials paint and spray-paint	£600
Sealant	£650
Paint for sides of building	£150
Paint for railings	£200
Protective suits and gloves	£100
Refreshments	£100

Travel and design	£150
Grand total	£3,150

RESOLVED: that the Committee approve in principle this expenditure, which would be covered from the Contentious Issues budget within the Good Relations programme and that officers be asked to provide further information regarding professional artist's fees.

CS/2008/61 : ETHNIC MINORITY CULTURAL EVENT

The Director of Administration & Community Services reported that this event would be developed in partnership with Belfast Health and Social Care Trust's Ethnic Minority Worker, Castlereagh's Good Relations Programme and the Chinese community in the Newtownbreda area. She advised that it was proposed to host a family orientated culture diversity day to be held in Newtownbreda (venue to be confirmed) during the Easter holidays.

The Director stated that the event would provide an opportunity for the Chinese community, local people and their families to come together in a non-threatening environment and develop good relations and friendships. This event would have a wide range of performers and workshops. She indicated that costs would be as follows:

Performance	£300
Workshops	£200
Venue hire	£300
Food and drink	£600
Materials	£200
Total	£1,600

RESOLVED: that the Committee approve expenditure of £1,600 towards the ethnic minority event with costs to be covered from the Good Relations programme cultural activities budget.

CS/2008/62 : ANTI RACISM TRAINING FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

The Director of Administration & Community Services reported that it was proposed to hold a full day training on anti racism on 28th March 2008 and that the participants would be made up of young people from the Change your Future programme and women from the Women in Sport programme. She indicated

that these people had signed up to these programmes in order to make themselves more employable and as such were volunteers.

Members were advised that the aim of the training would be to ensure that anti racism education was adopted as a key theme by potential volunteer coaches, and therefore passed on to the young people under their supervision. Concept Eleven, who had specifically designed the training agenda to deal with anti racism in sport, would facilitate the day.

The Director reported that it had originally been hoped to hold this training in Castlereagh Golf Club but, as there were 40 volunteers, the venue proved to be too small. Officers had quotations from local hotels and the cheapest proved to be the Ramada at £1,150 for hire of venue and lunch. Other costs were £400 for facilitation and performance and £250 transport costs, making a total of £1,800

Councillor Robinson stated that the training could possibly be accommodated at the Ice Bowl. After discussion it was

RESOLVED: that the Committee agree in principle to fund anti-racism training for young people in the sum of £1,800 and that officers be asked to investigate whether a Council facility such as the Ice Bowl could be the venue for the training with the possible inclusion of a skating package in the costs.

ARTS MATTERS

CS/2008/63 : ARTS FUNDING UPDATE AND PROPOSED CHANGES TO ARTS PROGRAMME

The Director of Administration & Community Services reported that the Minister for Finance had announced that, following public consultation, an additional £1.7 million had been allocated to the Arts Council for Northern Ireland in 2008/09 but that this still fell well short of the extra £9 million requested by the ACNI. She advised that at present the ACNI were unable to reverse their decision to withdraw financial support to local authorities' arts programmes through MAP funding. Members were reminded that the Council's three annual arts festivals received £10,000 per annum over the last 3 years from this programme (CS/2007/270).

The Director advised that, in response to the current funding climate, the Arts Officer would like to suggest a number of changes to the arts programme that would cut costs in some areas and allow a greater deal of flexibility and adaptability. These were as follows:

- (a) Replace the Festivals and Seasonal Sounds Concert programme with a year round rolling arts programme

Members were advised that the Arts programme in Castlereagh was currently comprised of three art-form specific festivals; Verbal Arts in February, Dance and Music in June/July, and Visual Arts in October and 2 Seasonal Sounds concert series in Autumn/ Winter and Spring/ Summer. The Arts Officer currently ran around 50 events a year as part of the current programme. She proposed that this schedule be replaced with a year round rolling arts programme encompassing all art forms.

Benefits of a Year Round Programme were outlined as follows:

- Greater flexibility of programming for linking in with touring events/ availability of artists, i.e. programme not confined to specific art forms or inflexible time periods.
- Two 'Castlereagh Arts Events' programmes produced annually rather than 5 different programmes, as is currently the case.
- Flexibility to reduce/ increase number of events according to available budget.
- Opportunity to run longer-term projects rather than just one off events, I
- Events spread evenly throughout the year easing strain on staff and allowing more time to market and promote events thus increasing audience numbers and potential ticket sales.

The Arts Officer estimated that the proposed change to the programme would save around £5,000 per annum, namely in the areas of artistic expenditure, equipment and venue hire. She had previously asked that Members consider adding an additional £5,000 to the arts estimates to cover the loss of ACNI funding but this would now not be necessary.

(b) Change to Castlereagh Arts Forum

The Arts Officer advised that Castlereagh Arts Forum was an advisory forum composed of 4 Councillors and 12 local arts practitioners/ individuals with an interest in the arts. The Arts Officer facilitated the group which met monthly and provided input and assistance with the programming and delivery of the arts programme. Although the Arts Forum had a constitution, it had been set up as an advisory committee with no financial management responsibilities. If the Arts Forum became financially independent from the Council with it's own bank account and more formalised office bearers, it would be in a position to apply for funds that local authorities have been deemed a low priority or ineligible for, such as ACNI and Awards For All. Such funds could be utilised to run specific projects within Castlereagh's arts programme. The Arts Officer would look to other Councils for best practice such as Ards Borough Council whose Arts Forum already operated in this manner. The Council's arts development budget would still remain under the control of

Castlereagh Borough Council; the only funds (if any) that would be paid into the Arts Forum bank account would be those obtained through external funding sources by the Arts Forum.

After discussion it was

RESOLVED:

- (a) that the Committee approve the above outlined change to the Arts programme, replacing the current system of 3 annual festivals and 2 concert series into a year round rolling arts programme encompassing all art forms.
- (b) that the Committee considered that Castlereagh Arts Forum should continue in its present format as an advisory committee and that there should be no transfer of financial management responsibilities

CS/2008/64 : FORUM FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND THE ARTS (FLGA) PLENARY SESSION

The Director of Administration & Community Services reported that the FLGA was the representative body for the local government arts sector and its membership comprised the 26 district councils. She indicated that a nominated councillor, arts officer, and local arts activist represented each council and that Councillor Tommy Jeffers, Christabel Williamson and Richard Mills represented Castlereagh Borough Council.

Members were advised that the FLGA met in plenary session three times a year and would like the Council to host a session on 22nd May 2008 from 10am to 4pm. Around 40 FLGA members were expected to attend the session. Technical assistance in terms of a data projector/screen and laptop would be required; catering would be arranged and paid for by the FLGA and the Council could invoice the FLGA for the cost of room hire. As car parking was an issue it would be necessary to utilise all the spaces in the LEDU car park and accordingly a Commissioner might be needed to open and close the gates. It was suggested that the Council could request that the FLGA cover this cost.

RESOLVED: That the Council agree to host a plenary session of the FLGA in Castlereagh Civic Centre on Thursday 22nd May in the function room of the Civic Centre.

CS/2008/65 : COMMUNITY ARTS DEVELOPMENT GRANTS FUNDING APPLICATION – TULLYCARNET WISECRACKERS

Members were advised that Tullycarnet Wisecrackers had been formed in 2006 and were a group of retired gentlemen who met weekly in Tullycarnet Community

Resource Centre to partake in various social and creative activities. The Group facilitated members in making friends, combating isolation, participating in activities, and in expanding creative experiences. There were currently 11 members in the group.

The project was entitled 'Wisecrackers Get Creative' and its aims were to develop participants' artistic, creativity and cultural experiences and to raise awareness of cultural diversity through the medium of verbal arts. The Wisecrackers would like to attend several of the events in Castlereagh's Verbal Arts Festival in February including; 'An evening of Ulster Scots Language and Culture', 'Chaplin' and 'Tha Twa Willies'.

The Director of Administration & Community Services reported that the project met the following aims of the Arts Development Grant Programme:

- Through attending the Verbal Arts festival, the Wisecrackers would increase their knowledge of the community (Ulster-Scots) and broaden their artistic development.
- The participants would gain a respect and awareness of cultural diversity in regards to Ulster Scots language and culture.
- The project provided a measurable outcome as participants would have increased their knowledge of the arts through attending the various events.

She advised that costs were as follows:

Ulster Scots launch evening tickets x 10 people	£30.00
Chaplin play tickets x 10 people	£50.00
Twa Willies tickets x 10 people	£30.00
Transport - £30.00 per event	£90.00
Total Costs	£200.00

RESOLVED: that the Committee approve an award of £200 from the Arts Development Grant programme to Tullycarnet Wisecrackers to enable them to attend Castlereagh's Verbal Arts Festival.

CS/2008/66 : COMMUNITY ARTS DEVELOPMENT GRANTS FUNDING APPLICATION – CLONDUFF MOTHERS AND TODDLERS

Members were advised that Clonduff mums and tots came together in 2005 as a group of concerned mother who identified a lack of activities for mothers and their children. The group ran every Thursday and Friday morning and there were approximately 12 mothers attending each session.

The Director of Administration & Community Services reported that the project was entitled 'Clonduff Concerteenie Stars' and its aim was to encourage children

to explore the arts through fun, age-appropriate songs, dance and games. The children would be encouraged to explore the basic musical elements of pitch, pulse, rhythm, and dynamics through a 4 week session for 1-3 years olds to be held in Clonduff Community Centre during March 2008. The sessions would be facilitated by staff from the Crescents Arts Centre and the participants would mainly be teenage mums and their 1-3 year olds

The Director advised that the project met the following objectives of the Arts Development Grant Programme:

- The project promoted and encouraged the artistic development and skills of participants through the medium of music and dance.
- The project encouraged active participation in music, singing and dance.
- The project provided a measurable outcome as participants would achieve musical skills and learn new dances and songs.

She reported that costs applied for were as follows:

Facilitation £30 per session x 4 weeks	£120.00
Refreshments for 4 sessions	£20.00
Hall hire - £7.00 per time	£28.00
Total costs	£168.00

RESOLVED: That the Committee approve an award of £168 from the Arts Development Grant scheme to the Clonduff Mother's and Toddlers Group for their 'Clonduff Concerteenie Stars' project.

CS/2008/67 : COMMUNITY ARTS DEVELOPMENT GRANTS FUNDING APPLICATION – TULLYCARNET PRIMARY SCHOOL

Members were advised that Tullycarnet Primary School was situated in an area of economic and educational need and provided a nurturing environment where children could grow in confidence and skills to reach their full potential. The school sought to provide extra curricular activities for children, which would otherwise be beyond their economic means.

The Director of Administration & Community Services reported that the project, entitled 'Beginners Guitar Lessons', would offer Primary 5 children a 5 week beginners' course in learning guitar to be facilitated by tutor, Raymond McCombe. The children would be provided with guitars and taught how to play notes and chords and would work towards performing at assembly. The school would like to begin lessons at the end of February 2008.

The Director advised that the project met the following objectives of the Arts Development Grant Programme:

- The project encouraged children’s artistic development through the medium of music.
- The project encouraged children to actively participate in learning to play guitar
- The project provided a measurable outcome of the existence and success of the project through children performing a concert at school assembly.

She advised that costs applied for were as follows:

Guitar tuition: 10 children x £5 per lesson x 5 weeks	£250
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She reported that the school was applying for a grant of £200 and hoped to raise the remaining £50 by fundraising.

RESOLVED: that the Committee approve an award of £200 from the Arts Development Grant scheme to Tullycarnet Primary School for their ‘Guitar Lessons’ project.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT MATTERS

CS/2008/68 : ST PATRICK’S DAY TEA DANCE IN CLONDUFF

Members were advised that the Community Development Officer for Clonduff sought permission to hold a tea dance in Clonduff Community Centre. The aim of the event was to use the tea dance as a medium to encourage and inspire the senior citizens of the area to become involved in their local communities and ultimately to set up a group. It was hoped that this group would help to combat isolation and loneliness while also promoting physical activity.

The Director of Administration & Community Services reported that the event would take place on St Patrick’s Day and it was envisaged that there would be approximately 60 senior’s citizens at the event. She stated that the Clonduff mother and toddlers would assist the community worker with the event.

Costs incurred:	
Entertainment:	£70.00
Refreshments:	£100.00
Hall hire:	£36.75
Total costs	£206.75

RESOLVED: that the Committee approve funding of £206.75 for a St Patrick’s Day tea dance in Clonduff which was line with the Community Support Plan and that the Committee noted that the costs would be covered from special projects budget.

CS/2008/69 : PEACE III PROGRAMME

The Director of Administration & Community Services reported that the Community Development Officer had attended a Peace III Workshop entitled “Implementing Partnership” (copy agenda previously circulated). She advised that Peace III money would be specifically aimed at reducing sectarianism and racism across Northern Ireland and the border counties. The objectives of the workshop had been to support the establishment of appropriate partnership arrangements and to support the principle of partnership working and encourage best practice as a theme of the Peace III Programme.

The Director advised that the workshop had highlighted the importance of an equal working partnership between the Councils involved. It had also emphasized that the partnership committee must produce an action plan for Peace III funding by the 31st March 2007. A consultation with the public must also be completed before the action plan was submitted. The Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB) would then assess this action plan.

The Director advised that the SEUPB had still not issued guidelines or clarified how the Peace III Programme would work particularly in relation to legal and fiscal concerns that had been raised by a number of Councils and also as to how the cross border element would operate.

Members were reminded that Castlereagh Borough Council was clustering with Lisburn City Council (CS/2007/195 refers) and it was therefore necessary to form a joint committee made up of four elected members from each Council. The committee would be responsible for drawing up and implementing an action plan, which would outline Peace III expenditure across the two boroughs and the nature of projects that would develop under the Peace III initiative. The Director advised that previous minutes confirmed that representatives for this committee had not yet been nominated.

The Director advised that the first meeting of the partnership committee was scheduled for 22 February 2008.

After discussion it was proposed by Councillor Robinson and

RESOLVED: that Councillor J Beattie, Hall, Hughes and Jeffers be appointed to represent the Council on the Peace III partnership committee.

CS/2008/70 : PARTNERSHIP PROJECT WITH SEELB YOUTH SERVICES AND CREGAGH PRIMARY SCHOOL

The Director of Administration & Community Services reported that the Community Development Worker, in conjunction with the SEELB Youth Worker,

had initiated an idea to provide an after-schools programme for young people aged 10-13 years living in the Cregagh estate. After discussions with the SEELB Youth Worker and the Principal of Cregagh PS, it had become apparent that there was a need to stimulate children educationally and provide more physical activity for young people in the Cregagh ward.

The Director advised that the project had two aims:

- To encourage young people to become involved in educational project work.
- To increase their physical activity levels.

She stated that it was hoped that the project would attract approximately 20 young people. She indicated that costs would be as follows:

Children will pay £1 per session.
Hire of Cregagh Community Centre - £6.90 (pending approval)
Materials and refreshments - £13.10

The Director advised that the after-schools club would be run as a non-profit making scheme and any money generated from the children's subscription would be used to cover the cost of the hall hire, materials, equipment and refreshments.

The programme would start on Tuesday 19th February 2008 from 3-5pm and would run for a trial period of 6 weeks. If successful it would continue until June 2008.

The Director reported that the Community Development Worker sought Members' approval to provide the hire of the room at the reduced rate of £6.90 (youth rate was normally £18.55), which would save the group £11.65. This difference could be covered by the Special Projects Budget. The income from the children's subscriptions could then be used for project materials and refreshments. The Community Development Worker had spoken to the Facilities Manager at Cregagh who indicated that the hall was not normally in use at this time and that this was considered an off-peak period.

RESOLVED: that the Committee approve the hire of Cregagh Community Centre at the reduced rate for the after-schools club project.

CS/2008/71 : UPDATE ON COLBY PARK COMMUNITY FACILITIES – NEWTOWNBRED A

The Director of Administration & Community Services reported that the Community Development Officers had been meeting with local community groups and businesses in the Newtownbreda area in order to gain their support for a local community facility. She advised that at present 25 letters of support

had been received from these groups indicating their view that a community facility would provide a valuable resource for those living in the area. 8 letters of support had also been received from health and council workers outlining how they could use a community centre and benefits it would bring to the area.

The Director reported that Community Development Officers had met with the new Planning Officer and had been advised that, further to their gathering of support letters, they must produce a Concept Statement that would support the planning application for the community facility. The concept statement would include

- Background on the site.
- Other facilities/services provided in the area.
- Statement of need for Newtownbreda in terms of service provision.
- How the building would fit into the surroundings.

Members were advised that, to gather this information, the Community Development Officers were constructing a questionnaire for local groups, investigating how they would use the facilities and what facilities were needed. They would also research the area in terms of service provision, i.e. what was available and establish if there would any duplication of services. This information would be collated and produced as a Concept Statement, which would support the planning application. It was hoped that this information would be gathered by the end of February 2008 and a planning application would be made in March 2008.

RESOLVED: that the Committee approve the actions being taken by Community Development Officers in gathering information for a community facility in Newtownbreda and agree to lodge a planning application as soon as reasonably practical.

CS/2008/72 : OFFICERS' INFORMATION REPORTS

Information Reports for the Arts Officer, the Community Development Officers and the Community Sports Development Officer had been previously circulated for Members' information.

Noted.

STAFF IN COMMITTEE

There being no further business, the meeting ended at 9.40 pm

CHAIRMAN

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Adopted by the Council this _____ day of
_____ 2006 with the exception of
Minute Nos. _____

MAYOR

CHIEF EXECUTIVE