

## **CASTLEREAGH BOROUGH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the proceedings of the Annual General Meeting of Castlereagh Borough Council, held in the Council Chamber, Civic & Administrative Offices, Bradford Court, Upper Galwally, Castlereagh, BT8 6RB on Thursday 19 June 2008 at 3.00 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Councillor Mrs M Chambers  
(in the Chair until 3.20 pm)

**ALDERMEN:** M Copeland  
J Norris MBE  
Mrs G Rice MBE  
Mrs I Robinson MP MLA  
J White

**COUNCILLORS:** Mrs A M Beattie  
J Beattie  
Ms J Bunting  
Mrs J Cochrane  
Mrs S Duncan  
D Drysdale  
B Hanvey  
M Henderson  
Miss R Hughes MBE  
T Jeffers  
M Long  
Mrs V McCoy  
G Robinson  
J Spratt MLA  
C Tosh  
L Walker

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Chief Executive, Director of Technical & Environmental Services, Director of Administration & Community Services, Director of Finance, Director of Leisure Services and Members' Services Officer

**APOLOGIES:** An apology was received on behalf of Councillor Hall

### **2008/293 : OPENING OF MEETING**

Councillor Chambers presented Reverend McIlveen with a token of her appreciation for all his help and support throughout the year.

Reverend McIlveen thanked the Mayor for giving him the opportunity to take on the role of Chaplain and he hoped that he had been able to help her in some small way through her personal sorrow.

He then opened the meeting with a prayer.

Noted.

## **2008/294 : OUTGOING MAYOR**

Councillor Chambers began by stating that it had been an honour and privilege for her to serve Castlereagh as its First Citizen for the second time.

She thanked the Chief Executive, the Directors and staff for their dedication in helping to keep Castlereagh the premier Borough in Northern Ireland. She also thanked the Elected Members for being so considerate to her during her year in Office.

Councillor Chambers outlined that there had been many memories during her year in Office which she would treasure for many years to come, including:

- Official opening of the Carryduff playground
- Official opening of Cregagh playground
- Civic Reception for the Right Honourable Peter Robinson MP, MLA and First Minister of Northern Ireland
- Bestowing of the Freedom of the Borough on the Northern Ireland Housing Executive
- 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the La Mon Tragedy
- A number of community events, including the invitation from the Dundonald Phillipino Community to be their Association's Inducting Officer

Councillor Chambers paid tribute to her family for their support, and in particular, to her two sons Ronald and Simon, her mother, sister and grand-daughter Emma for their support throughout the year.

She also thanked the Deputy Mayor, Councillor David Drysdale for his support and for organising a successful fundraising event on behalf of her charity.

Councillor Chambers outlined that she was pleased to report that the amount of money raised for her nominated charity, Cancer Research UK, would be in excess of £30,000.00. She referred in particular to the Charity Fashion Show and Bowling Event and thanked Members and staff for their assistance and generosity in giving up their time so willingly.

She indicated that she would like to mention Edel Patterson and Alison Dunbar who had been a tower of strength to her during a very difficult personal year.

She added that she would again like to pay tribute to her Pastor, Reverend David McIlveen for leading the Council in its devotions and providing spiritual support and guidance. She added that she was most grateful to Reverend McIlveen for taking on the role of Chaplain, and for being at her side at every civic occasion.

Councillor Chambers concluded by wishing the incumbent Mayor every success and hoped that they would enjoy their year in Office as much as she had.

Councillor Spratt stood on behalf of his Party colleagues to congratulate the Mayor on a very successful year and for carrying out all her duties with great dignity.

He paid tribute to her for raising in excess of £30,000.00 for a very worthwhile charity, and outlined that apart from her fundraising achievements as Mayor, Councillor Chambers also gave up her time on a voluntary basis raising funds for Cancer Research.

On behalf of the UUP, Councillor Henderson congratulated Councillor Chambers for a very successful year as Mayor and for her excellent fundraising achievements, which he was sure would be greatly appreciated by Action Cancer.

On behalf of the Alliance Party, Alderman Rice paid tribute to Councillor Chambers, and indicated that, despite the personal difficulties, she felt that she had been courageous in agreeing to take on the responsibility of the position of Mayor. She thanked Councillor Chambers for the equitable way she had treated all Council Members.

Councillor Hanvey stood on behalf of the SDLP to pay tribute to the Mayor and Deputy Mayor.

Councillor Drysdale thanked the Mayor for the consideration and kindness she had shown to him, and added that he had been delighted to be able to assist in her fundraising efforts.

Noted.

## **2008/295 : ELECTION OF MAYOR**

Councillor Chambers called for nominations for the position of Mayor of Castlereagh.

Councillor Spatt proposed Councillor Mrs Ann-Marie Beattie as Mayor and stated that Councillor Mrs Beattie was a dedicated Member of the Council and seldom missed a Council or Committee meeting.

Alderman Mrs Robinson outlined that Councillor Mrs Beattie was not just dedicated to those ratepayers within her area but worked tirelessly for residents across the entire Borough. She added that she had great pleasure in seconding the proposal.

With no other nominations, it was

RESOLVED (unanimously) That the Council agrees that Councillor Mrs Ann-Marie Beattie be appointed Mayor of Castlereagh for the 2008/2009 year.

After completing the Declaration of Acceptance of Office, Councillor Mrs Beattie took the Chair.

### **2008/296 : MAYOR'S THANKS**

Councillor Mrs Beattie thanked the Members for voting her into the Office of Mayor of Castlereagh and added that she fully appreciated the serious responsibility attached to such a high office. She outlined that she would carry out the duties, on behalf of the citizens of the Borough, in a fair and honest way. She added that she was sure that the experience gained in her capacity as Mayoress when her husband had been Mayor would be beneficial to her.

She continued by stating that Castlereagh Council was dedicated to low rates as well as providing a high quality of service. She outlined that she looked forward to a number of new facilities being provided within the forthcoming year, such as Moneyreagh Community Centre, Lock-Keeper's Cottage and Visitors' Centre and the Council's involvement in the extension to the Hanwood Project.

Councillor Mrs Beattie paid tribute to the outgoing Mayor, Councillor Chambers, and Deputy Mayor, Councillor David Drysdale.

She advised that her charity would be MacMillan Cancer Care, a charity which not only supported the patient but also their families. She added that she looked forward to the support of her fellow Councillors and to the staff in assisting her in her fund raising efforts on behalf of this very worthwhile charity.

Alderman Rice and Councillors Harvey, Henderson and Spratt stood on behalf of their Party colleagues to congratulate Councillor Mrs Ann-Marie Beattie and wish her all the best in her year in Office.

Noted.

### **2008/297 : ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR**

Councillor Mrs Beattie called for nominations for the position of Deputy Mayor.

Councillor Spratt outlined that, in line with the Council's previous agreement, that during the fourth year of the Council term the positions of both Mayor and Deputy Mayor would be held by a DUP Member.

He outlined that he had great pleasure in proposing Alderman White as Deputy Mayor.

Councillor J Beattie seconded the proposal.

No other nominations were put forward.

Alderman Rice, Councillors Henderson and Hanvey stood on behalf of their Party colleagues to congratulate Alderman White on his appointment as Deputy Mayor of Castlereagh.

RESOLVED (unanimously) That Alderman White be appointed Deputy Mayor of Castlereagh for the 2008/2009 year.

Prior to signing the Declaration of Acceptance of Office of Deputy Mayor, Alderman White stated that he looked forward to supporting the Mayor throughout her year in Office.

#### **2008/298 : MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES**

Councillor J Beattie proposed that the current committee structure remain the same as last year.

The proposal was seconded by Alderman Norris.

RESOLVED (unanimously) That the Council agrees to the Committee structure for the 2008/2009 year as follows:-

#### **Planning Committee**

All 23 Members

#### **Technical & Environmental Services Committee**

10 Members plus Mayor plus 2 ex officio

DUP – 6 Members

Alderman J Norris MBE

Councillor J Beattie

Councillor T Jeffers

Councillor G Robinson

Councillor Mrs V McCoy

Councillor L Walker

Alliance - 2 Members  
Alderman Mrs G Rice MBE  
Councillor Mrs S Duncan

Ulster Unionist – 1 Member  
Councillor D Drysdale

SDLP – 1 Member  
Councillor B Hanvey

Councillor Mrs A Beattie (Mayor ex officio)  
Alderman J White (Deputy Mayor ex officio)

**Central Services Committee**

11 Members plus 2 ex officio

DUP - 6 Members  
Councillor J Beattie  
Councillor Ms J Bunting  
Councillor Mrs M Chambers  
Councillor T Jeffers  
Councillor L Walker  
Councillor J Spratt MLA

Ulster Unionist – 1 Member  
Councillor C Hall

Alliance - 2 Members  
Alderman Mrs Rice MBE  
Councillor M Long

SDLP – 1 Member  
Councillor Miss R Hughes MBE

Independent – 1 Member  
Councillor C Tosh

Councillor Mrs A Beattie (Mayor ex officio)  
Alderman J White (Deputy Mayor ex officio)

**Leisure Services Committee**

10 Members plus 2 ex officio

DUP - 7 Members  
Councillor J Beattie  
Councillor Ms J Bunting

Councillor Mrs M Chambers  
Councillor Mrs V McCoy  
Alderman J Norris MBE  
Councillor L Walker

SDLP – 1 Member  
Councillor B Hanvey

Alliance - 1 Member  
Councillor Mrs S Duncan

Ulster Unionist – 1 Member  
Alderman M Copeland

Independent – 1 Member  
Councillor C Tosh

Councillor Mrs A Beattie (Mayor ex officio)  
Alderman J White (Deputy Mayor ex officio)

**Finance & General Purposes Committee**

7 Members plus chairmen of the six spending committees, plus Mayor and Deputy Mayor as ex officio Members.

DUP - 8 Members  
Alderman J Norris MBE  
Councillor J Beattie  
Councillor Ms J Bunting  
Councillor Mrs M Chambers  
Councillor T Jeffers  
Councillor G Robinson  
Councillor L Walker  
Councillor J Spratt MLA

Alliance Party – 2 Members  
Councillor Mrs J Cochrane  
Councillor Mrs S Duncan

Ulster Unionist – 1 Member  
Alderman M Copeland  
Councillor D Drysdale

SDLP – 1 Member  
Councillor B Hanvey

Councillor Mrs A Beattie (Mayor ex officio)

Alderman J White (Deputy Mayor ex officio)

**Leisure Park Board**

9 Members plus 2 ex officio

DUP - 6 Members  
Councillor J Beattie  
Councillor Ms J Bunting  
Councillor Mrs V McCoy  
Alderman Mrs I Robinson MP MLA  
Councillor G Robinson  
Councillor J Spratt MLA

Alliance - 1 Member  
Councillor M Long

SDLP  
Councillor B Hanvey

Ulster Unionist – 1 Member  
Councillor M Henderson

Councillor Mrs A Beattie (Mayor ex officio)  
Alderman J White (Deputy Mayor ex officio)

**Castlereagh Hills Golf Club Board**

- 8 Members plus Mayor & Deputy Mayor as ex officio Members

DUP - 4 Members  
Councillor Mrs M Chambers  
Councillor T Jeffers  
Councillor G Robinson  
Councillor J Spratt MLA

Ulster Unionist – 2 Members  
Councillor D Drysdale  
Councillor M Henderson

Alliance Party - 1 Member  
Councillor Mrs J Cochrane

SDLP – 1 Member  
Councillor B Hanvey

Councillor Mrs A Beattie (Mayor)  
Alderman J White. (Deputy Mayor)

RESOLVED (unanimously) That Council agrees to the membership of the seven Standing Committees as outlined above, to include the Mayor and Deputy Mayor as ex officio Members, for the 2008/2009 year.

#### **2008/299 : CHAIR/VICE CHAIR OF COMMITTEES**

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED : That a meeting of the Standing Committees be convened after the Annual General Meeting in order to elect the Chairs and Vice Chairs.

#### **2008/300 : COMMUNITY AND LEISURE CENTRE ADVISORY COMMITTEES**

Councillor Robinson proposed that the Community/Leisure Centre Advisory Committees meet on a quarterly basis, and that the meetings be open to all Members from a particular Council Ward. For example, Community Services Officers arrange for one meeting to be convened at one location for user-groups of all community centres within the Central Ward. He added that a similar arrangement be put in place by Leisure Services Officers in relation to the Leisure Centre Advisory Committees.

The proposal was seconded by Councillor Henderson.

RESOLVED : That

- (a) Community Centre User-Group Advisory Committees be convened on a quarterly basis, and that one meeting be convened for all community centre user-groups within a particular Ward and the meeting be open to all Members representing that particular Ward.
- (b) a similar arrangement be put in place in relation to Leisure Centre User Group Advisory Committees

#### **2008/301 : APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE EAST BELFAST PARTNERSHIP**

It was proposed by Alderman White, seconded by Councillor Chambers, and

RESOLVED : That Councillors Mrs A Beattie, J Beattie, G Robinson and L Walker represent the Council on the East Belfast Partnership for the 2008/2009 year.

**2008/302 : APPOINTMENT TO THE SOUTH EASTERN EDUCATION & LIBRARY BOARD (copy correspondence enclosed re: reinstatement of the Board)**

It was proposed by Councillor Walker, seconded by Alderman White, and

RESOLVED (unanimously) That Alderman Norris and Councillor Robinson represent the Council on the South Eastern Education & Library Board for the 2008/2009 year.

**2008/303 : INTER-AGENCY BONFIRE WORKING GROUP**

Councillor Robinson proposed that the Inter-Agency Working membership remain the same as last year, but that Councillor Walker be made a full Member rather than a substitute.

The proposal was seconded by Councillor Henderson.

RESOLVED (unanimously) That Alderman M Copeland, Councillor Mrs A Beattie, Councillor Miss R Hughes, Councillor B Hanvey, Councillor M Long and Councillor L Walker represent the Council on the Inter Agency Bonfire Working Group for the 2008/2009 year.

**2008/304 : APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES TO SOUTH EASTERN GROUP BUILDING CONTROL COMMITTEE**

Following a proposal from Councillor Henderson which was seconded by Alderman White, it was

RESOLVED : That Alderman Norris and Councillor C Hall represent the Council on the South Eastern Group Building Control Committee for the 2008/2009 year.

**2008/305 : APPOINTMENT TO REPRESENTATIVES TO THE HANWOOD TRUST COMPANY LIMITED**

Following a proposal from Councillor Henderson which was seconded by Councillor Spratt, it was

RESOLVED : That Aldermen Norris, White, Councillors Drysdale and Robinson represent the Council on the Hanwood Trust Company Limited for the 2000/2010 year.

**2008/306 : APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES TO CASTLEREAGH ARTS FORUM**

Councillor J Beattie proposed that the current membership of the above remain the same as last year, but that in order that one Member from each political party be represented on the Forum, a nomination from the SDLP be sought.

The proposal was seconded by Councillor Robinson.

Councillor Hanvey proposed Councillor Hughes, and this was seconded by Councillor Henderson

RESOLVED : That Councillor Miss Hughes, Councillor T Jeffers, Councillor C Tosh, Councillor Mrs S Duncan and Alderman M Copeland represent the Council on the Castlereagh Arts Forum for the 2008/2009 year.

#### **2008/307 : NORTHERN IRELAND LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION**

Councillor Duncan proposed that Councillor Cochrane replace her on the above Association, and this was seconded by Councillor Henderson.

With the exception of the above amendment, Members agreed that the current membership of the Northern Ireland Local Government Association remain the same as last year.

RESOLVED : That Councillor J Beattie, Councillor Ms J Bunting, Councillor Mrs M Chambers, Councillor J Spratt, Councillor Mrs J Cochrane and Councillor M Henderson represents the Council on the Northern Ireland Local Government Association for the 2008/2009 year.

#### **2008/308 : CASTLEREAGH DISTRICT POLICING PARTNERSHIP**

Councillor Spratt outlined that as a newly appointed Member of the Northern Ireland Policing Board, he would be required to resign from the District Policing Partnership. He proposed that Alderman Norris replace him on the Partnership, and this was seconded by Councillor Henderson.

On behalf of the Ulster Unionist Party, Councillor Henderson congratulated Councillor Spratt on his appointment to the Policing Board.

Alderman Rice and Councillor Chambers also congratulated Councillor Spratt and expressed their confidence in his ability to carry out the duties involved in this new appointment.

RESOLVED : That Alderman Norris replace Councillor Spratt on the Castlereagh District Policing Partnership.

#### **2008/309 : FORUM FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND THE ARTS**

Councillor Robinson proposed that Councillor Duncan replace Councillor Jeffers on the above Forum, and this was seconded by Councillor Henderson

RESOLVED : That Councillor Mrs Duncan represents the Council on the Forum for Local Government and the Arts for the 2008/2009 year.

**2008/310 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM LAGAN CANAL TRUST SEEKING TWO COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES TO SIT ON THE NEWLY FORMED SHADOW BOARD OF THE TRUST (copy previously circulated)**

Councillor Beattie proposed that the two Members currently represented on the Lagan Valley Regional Park Board also represent the Council on the Shadow Board of the Shadow Board of the Lagan Canal Trust for the 2008/2009 year.

The proposal was seconded by Councillor Henderson.

RESOLVED : That Councillors Mrs Beattie and Mrs Duncan represent the Council on the Shadow Board of the Lagan Canal Trust for the 2008/2009 year.

**2008/311 : MEMBERSHIP TO THE REMAINING OUTSIDE BODIES**

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

RESOLVED (unanimously) That membership on the following outside bodies for 2008/2009 remain the same as in the previous year, as follows:

**(i) EAST BELFAST REGENERATION GROUP:-**

Councillor Mrs J Cochrane  
Alderman M Copeland  
Councillor G Robinson

**(ii) CASTLEREAGH LOCAL STRATEGY PARTNERSHIP:-**

Councillor Mrs A M Beattie	Councillor J Beattie
Councillor Ms J Bunting	Alderman Mrs Rice
Councillor D Drysdale	Councillor Mrs S Duncan
Councillor C Hall	Alderman J Norris
Councillor T Jeffers	Councillor C Tosh

**(iii) EASTERN GROUP ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH COMMITTEE**

Councillor T Jeffers  
Councillor M Henderson  
Alderman Mrs G Rice (substitute)

**(iv) NORTHERN IRELAND HOUSING COUNCIL**

Councillor White

**(v) BOARD OF LAGAN VALLEY REGIONAL PARK LIMITED**

Councillor Mrs A M Beattie

Mrs S Duncan

**(vi) RESERVE FORCES & CADETS ASSOCIATION FOR NORTHERN IRELAND**

Councillor Jeffers

**(vii) THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILLORS – NORTHERN IRELAND REGION**

Alderman J Norris

Councillor J White

Councillor M Henderson

Councillor Mrs M Chambers

**(viii) CASTLEREAGH SPORTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Alderman J Norris

Councillor C Tosh

Councillor T Jeffers

Councillor C Hall

Councillor B Hanvey

**(ix) LA MON BURSARY COMMITTEE**

Alderman I Robinson

Alderman J Norris

Councillor M Henderson

Councillor M Chambers

Councillor J Spratt

Councillor M Long

**2008/321 : REPORT ON ALDERMEN'S/COUNCILLORS' ATTENDANCES FOR THE PERIOD 14 JUNE 2007 TO 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2008 (copy previously circulated).**

Noted.

**2008/322 : WIND TURBINE AT LOUGH MOSS**

Councillor Spratt advised that, due to the tight timescales, the above matter required an urgent decision. He proposed that the matter be discussed at the Special Leisure Services Committee meeting being convened after the AGM and that the executive powers previously granted to the Committee be extended for consideration of this matter.

Councillor Long seconded the proposal.

RESOLVED : That the issue of the Wind Turbine at Lough Moss be considered at the Special Leisure Services Committee meeting being convened after the Annual General meeting, and that the executive powers previously granted in relation to this matter be extended to this meeting.

There being no further business the meeting ended at 4.05 p.m.

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**CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

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**MAYOR**