

Some information is excluded under FOI

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, 17 December 2009, at 4.30 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillor L Walker (in the chair)

ALDERMEN: M Henderson (from 4.45 pm)
J Norris MBE
G Rice MBE (from 5.10 pm)
J White

COUNCILLORS: AM Beattie
J Beattie
J Bunting
M Chambers
J Cochrane
M Copeland
D Drysdale
S Duncan
B Hanvey
R Hughes MBE
T Jeffers (from 5.10 pm)
M Long
V McCoy
G Robinson
J Spratt
C Tosh

IN ATTENDANCE: Acting Chief Executive (Director of Leisure Services), Senior Accountant, Client Manager, Administration Manager, Planning Officer, Planning Service Officer and Members' Services Officer

APOLOGIES: Apologies were received on behalf of Councillor Hall

2009/689 : OPENING OF MEETING

The Mayor's Chaplain, Reverend Paul Linkens, opened the meeting with a prayer.

Noted.

2009/690 : MINUTES

RESOLVED : That

- (a) The Minutes of the following meetings be adopted as a true and accurate record of proceedings:
 - (i) Council meeting of 26 November 2009
 - (ii) Technical & Environmental Services Committee meeting of 1 December 2009
 - (iii) Leisure Services Committee meeting of 3 December 2009
 - (iv) Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting of 9 December 2009
- (b) Consideration of the following Minutes be deferred to later in the meeting:
 - (a) Central Services Committee meeting of 14 December 2009
- (c) The Minutes of the meeting of the Golf Club Board held on 20 October 2009 be noted

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

2009/691 : NOMINATION TO DRAINAGE COUNCIL (Minute 2009/655 refers)

The Acting Chief Executive advised that the Council's submission of Councillor Hall's nomination to the Drainage Council had been late, as the closing date had been 27 November 2009, therefore it had not been accepted.

Noted.

PLANNING

(Councillor AM Beattie took the chair for this part of the meeting)

SCHEDULE OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS DATED 17 DECEMBER 2009 (copy previously circulated)

2009/692 : APPLICATIONS REFUSALS

Councillor Spratt congratulated the Planning Service Officer on his engagement. Alderman Henderson and Councillors Long, Hughes and Tosh added their congratulations.

The Planning Service Officer then advised that, due to the pending ratification of PP21, Planning Applications Y/2008/0193/F and Y/2009/0066/F would be deferred automatically.

Noted.

2009/693 : WEEKLY PLANNING APPLICATIONS FOR THE PERIOD 17 NOVEMBER TO 7 DECEMBER 2009 (copy previously circulated)

Noted.

2009/694 : NOTES OF THE OFFICE MEETING OF 10 DECEMBER 2009 RE: PLANNING APPLICATION Y/2009/0019/O

Noted.

2009/695 : NOTES OF THE OFFICE MEETING OF 10 DECEMBER 2009 RE: PLANNING APPLICATION Y/2008/0010/F

Noted.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS - PLANNING

2009/696 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT RE: REFORMS TO THE PLANNING SYSTEM

The Planning Officer advised that she had received correspondence from the Minister for the Environment, which had raised some issues that would warrant Members' consideration. She stated that she would prepare a report for the January full Council meeting, which would be prepared in conjunction with her counterpart in Lisburn City Council, also to be circulated to Members in that Council.

RESOLVED: That the Planning Officer prepare a report for the January 2010 full Council meeting in respect of issues raised by the Minister for the Environment.

2009/697 : ADVERTISING SIGNS AT QUARRY CORNER

Alderman White stated that he had received complaints from residents at Quarry Corner in respect of large advertising signs for Limo Nights. He enquired whether the Planning Service could take steps to have them removed. The Planning Service Officer replied that he would report to the Enforcement Section.

Councillor Bunting felt that there should be policies in respect of advertising signs and she enquired about procedures available to have the signs removed.

Following some further discussion, it was

RESOLVED: That the Planning Service Officer investigate and report back in respect of advertising signs at the January 2010 full Council meeting.

(The Mayor resumed the Chair for the rest of the meeting)

ROADS

2009/698 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE ROADS SERVICE, DATED 2 DECEMBER 2009, RE: UPDATE ON ISSUES RAISED BY CASTLEREAGH SOUGH COUNCILLORS (copy previously circulated)

Councillor Hanvey raised concerns that Members' questions that had arisen at the Roads Service presentation had not been fully answered. In particular, he felt that work regarding the bus shelter at Mealough Road and footpath, including the cost, had not been explained clearly. He further stated that there had been no explanation in respect of disruption to the business community etc.

Alderman White agreed with Councillor Hanvey, and he proposed that the Council write to the Roads Service, requesting further clarification of points raised during the presentation. Alderman Henderson seconded the proposal, and it was

RESOLVED: That the Council write to the Roads Service requesting further clarification of points raised during the Roads Service presentation to full Council.

FINANCE

2009/699 : ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Councillor Beattie thanked Officers for all their work during the past year. Alderman Henderson concurred and congratulated staff for achieving good results.

RESOLVED : That the Council approve the undernoted payments:

General Account (Suppliers)	£532,716.45
General Account (Emergency Payments)	£80,716.76
Subsidiary Account (Wages & Salaries)	£713,908.32

MAYOR/DEPUTY MAYOR'S BUSINESS

2009/700 : MAYOR/DEPUTY MAYOR'S BUSINESS FOR DECEMBER 2009 (copy previously circulated)

Noted.

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

2009/701 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, SOCIAL SERVICES & PUBLIC SAFETY, DATED 1 DECEMBER 2009, RE: CONFIDENCE IN CARE PROGRAMME – CONSULTATION ON THE ROLE OF RESPONSIBLE OFFICERS: CLOSING THE GAP IN MEDICAL REGULATION (copy previously circulated)

Noted.

2009/702 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & RURAL DEVELOPMENT, DATED 23 NOVEMBER 2009, RE: CONSULTATION ON PROPOSALS FOR CHANGES TO DOG CONTROL LEGISLATION (copy previously circulated)

Members agreed to defer consideration of the consultation paper regarding proposals for changes to the legislation governing the control of dogs to the Technical & Environmental Services Committee. Alderman White requested that Officers prepare a report detailing the effects of the proposed changes.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That consideration of the consultation paper on proposals for changes to dog control legislation be deferred to the Technical & Environmental Services Committee.
- (b) That Officers prepare a report detailing the effects of the proposed changes.

2009/703 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, SOCIAL SERVICES & PUBLIC SAFETY, DATED 19 NOVEMBER 2009, RE: CONSULTATION ON THE REGULATION OF THE SUNBED INDUSTRY IN NORTHERN IRELAND (copy previously circulated)

RESOLVED: That consideration of the consultation paper on the regulation of the sunbed industry in Northern Ireland be deferred to the Technical & Environmental Services Committee.

2009/704 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILLORS RE: CONFERENCE ENTITLED ‘TACKLING CLIMATE CHANGE – PROTECTING OUR ENVIRONMENT’ (copy previously circulated)

RESOLVED: That approval be granted for the Council’s representatives to attend the National Association of Councillors conference entitled ‘Tackling Climate Change – Protecting our Environment’, to be held on 22-24 January 2010, in the Monkbar Hotel, York.

2009/705 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE DEPARTMENT FOR EMPLOYMENT & LEARNING, DATED 3 DECEMBER 2009, RE: BIS CONSULTATION ON EUROPEAN WORKS COUNCIL DIRECTIVE (copy previously circulated)

Alderman White requested that Officers prepare a report in respect of the BIS Consultation on European Works Council Directive and the effect on the workforce in Castlereagh for consideration by the Finance & General Purposes Committee.

RESOLVED: That Officers prepare a report in respect of the BIS Consultation on European Works Council Directive and the effect on the workforce in Castlereagh for consideration by the Finance & General Purposes Committee.

2009/706 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE DEPARTMENT FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT, DATED 23 NOVEMBER 2009, RE: BELFAST RAPID TRANSIT CONSULTATION (copy previously circulated)

Members agreed that consideration of the consultation paper was important, and Councillor Duncan requested that Officers obtain the full consultation pack. Furthermore, Alderman White felt that the Planning Officer should prepare a report in respect of the effects of the policy proposals in the Castlereagh area.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That Officers obtain the full consultation pack in respect of Belfast Rapid Transit.
- (b) That the Planning Officer prepare a report in respect of the effects of the policy proposals contained in the Belfast Rapid Transit consultation document in the Castlereagh area.

2009/707 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM NILGA, DATED 30 NOVEMBER 2009, RE: MANAGEMENT AND MONITORING OF ENGAGEMENT WITH NILGA (copy previously circulated)

Noted.

2009/708 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE NORTHERN IRELAND OFFICE, DATED 24 NOVEMBER 2009, RE: PUBLIC CONSULTATION – KEEPING THE RIGHT PEOPLE ON THE DNA DATABASE (copy previously circulated)

Noted.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

2009/709 : MINUTES OF THE CENTRAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 14 DECEMBER 2009 (copy tabled at meeting)

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the Minutes of the Central Services Committee meeting of 14 December 2009 be adopted as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.
- (b) That Minute CS/2009/322 be considered In Committee.

2009/710 : ADDITIONAL LEAVE DAY

Councillor Robinson proposed to give one additional leave day to all staff on 24 December 2009 and that staff who were required to work on this day would be granted one additional leave day at a future date. Alderman Henderson seconded the proposal, and it was

RESOLVED: That approval be granted for one additional leave day to all staff on 24 December 2009 and that staff who were required to work on this day be granted one additional leave day at a future date.

2009/711 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM NILGA, RE: NORTHERN IRELAND OFFICE CONSULTATION – FILLING CASUAL VACANCIES ON DISTRICT COUNCILS (copy previously circulated)

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED: That the Council grant approval for the acceptance of Option 3 in the consultation document – Replacement by party nomination.

2009/712 : TULLYCARNET PARK

The Acting Chief Executive advised that Stage 1 of the Heritage Lottery funding process had been passed successfully and a press release would be issued on 21 December 2009 by the Heritage Lottery and the Council.

Noted.

2009/713 : ESTIMATES WORKING GROUP

Councillor Long advised that Alderman Rice had replaced him on the Estimates Working Group.

Noted.

2009/714 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE ROADS SERVICE, DATED 15 DECEMBER 2009, RE: GLEN ROAD AND RODDENS CRESDENT, CASTLEREAGH – TRAFFIC CALMING SCHEME

Noted.

IN COMMITTEE

2009/715 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF BELFAST CITY COUNCIL

Members considered the documents and report from the Chair of the Voluntary Transition Committee, and it was

RESOLVED:

- (a) that the Acting Chief Executive and the Chief Executive from Lisburn City Council draft a response to Belfast City Council for consideration by the Transition Committee, at its next meeting
- (b) that, following the Transition Committee meeting the views of the Transition Committee Members be reported to full Council
- (c) that the Acting Chief Executive write to the Minister for the Environment, requesting urgent clarification of issues relating to the unique circumstances in Castlereagh Borough Council and Lisburn City Council and stating the debilitating effect, the lack of clarity in respect of assets and boundaries are having during discussions relating to preparatory transitional work.

2009/716 : TRIP TO THE SOMME IN 2010 (Minute No. CS/2009/322 refers)

Councillor Chambers felt that nominations for the trip should be confirmed as a matter of urgency in order to facilitate the necessary travel arrangements. It was

RESOLVED: That any Member interested in attending the Somme 2010 commemorations forward their name to the Administration Manager in order that the necessary travel arrangements can be made.

2009/717 : COLLABORATIVE WORKING

Councillor Bunting proposed that Officers prepare a report containing all relevant information and forward this to NILGA for consideration.

RESOLVED: That Officers prepare a report containing relevant information and forward this to NILGA.

As there being was no further business, the meeting concluded at 6.00 p.m.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

MAYOR