

CASTLEREAGH BOROUGH COUNCIL

Minutes of the proceedings of the Technical & Environmental Services Committee held, in committee, in the Function Suite, Civic & Administrative Offices, Bradford Court, Upper Galwally, Castlereagh, BT8 6RB, on Tuesday, 1 June 2010, at 6.00 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillor G Robinson
(in the chair)

ALDERMEN: Mrs G Rice MBE

COUNCILLORS: AM Beattie
J Beattie
M Copeland
D Drysdale
S Duncan
T Jeffers
S Skillen

IN ATTENDANCE: Director of Technical & Environmental Services, Building Control Manager, Client Services Manager, Environmental Health Manager, Operational Services Manager and Assistant Members' Services Officer

APOLOGIES: Apologies were received on behalf of Alderman Norris and Councillors Chambers, Hall and Walker

T&ESC/2010/189 : MINUTES OF THE TECHNICAL & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 13 APRIL 2010 (copy previously circulated)

Noted.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

T&ESC/2010/190 : COUNCIL ALLOTMENTS (Minute No T&ESC/2010/128 refers)

In response to a query from Councillor Drysdale, the Operational Services Manager confirmed that the sub-division of two large allotments at Albert Drive was being progressed and that a rental charge of £20 per year would apply.

Noted.

REPORT FROM BUILDING CONTROL MANAGER (copy previously circulated)

T&ESC/2010/191 : SCHEDULE OF APPLICATIONS

The Building Control Manager referred Members to the schedules of applications approved by the Building Control Service for the period 1 March 2010 to 31 March 2010 and for the period 1 April 2010 to 30 April 2010.

Noted.

T&ESC/2010/192 : REPORTS ON APPLICATIONS, INSPECTIONS AND SOLICITORS ENQUIRIES

The Building Control Manager attached to his report for Members' information details in respect of applications received, plan fees raised, inspections undertaken, inspection fees raised and solicitors' enquiries for March 2010 and for April 2010.

Noted.

T&ESC/2010/193 : PERFORMANCE INDICATORS – FULL PLAN APPLICATIONS FOR JANUARY 2010 TO MARCH 2010

The Building Control Manager referred to his report detailing the performance indicators for the above period.

The Chair asked that the Manager pass on the Committee's appreciation to his staff for their achievements.

Noted.

T&ESC/2010/194 : YEAR OUT STUDENT (UUJ)

The Building Control Manager reported that the current student placement was coming to an end. He advised that the student had been very appreciative of the opportunity offered by the Council and had gained excellent workplace experience. He reported that a further placement was being progressed and a student, who had recently completed the 2nd year of a BSc (Honours) course in Building Surveying at the University of Ulster (UUJ), had been interviewed and had passed a written test for the student post.

He advised that the student would commence work with the Building Control Service Unit at the start of October 2010, for twelve months industrial training and that this appointment would be at no cost to the Council. He reported that, as in the previous year, he would carry out a similar assessment on the placement after a period of 3 months and would report back to the Committee with a view to considering payment of a performance related salary.

Noted.

T&ESC/2010/195 : SOUTH EASTERN GROUP BUILDING CONTROL COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meeting of the South Eastern Group Building Control Committee, held at South Eastern Building Control's board room at the Council Offices, Downpatrick, on 12 April 2010 had been previously circulated to Members for their information.

Noted.

T&ES/2010/196 : STREET NAMING AT 49-51 SAINTFIELD ROAD, BELFAST

The Building Control Manager reported that Ravara Properties Ltd had proposed the name of 'Four Winds Manor' for a development of 6 apartments on lands at 1 Four Winds Avenue, Belfast. He advised that the proposal met the requirements of the Council's Street Naming Policy, in that 'Four Winds' was in use in the area.

RESOLVED: that the name of 'Four Winds Manor' be allocated to the proposed development of 6 No. apartments on lands at 1 Four Winds Avenue, Belfast.

**SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT FROM THE BUILDING CONTROL MANAGER
(copy tabled at the meeting)**

T&ES/2010/197 : THE ENERGY PERFORMANCE OF BUILDINGS, (CERTIFICATES AND INSPECTIONS), REGULATIONS (N.I.) 2008 AND THE ENERGY PERFORMANCE OF BUILDINGS (CERTIFICATES AND INSPECTION) (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS (N.I.) 2009 - ENFORCING THE REGULATIONS

The Building Control Manager referred to the Committee's previous consideration of enforcement of energy performance certifications and copy of Minute No. T&ESC/2009/509 was circulated for Members' information.

Members were advised that the duty of enforcing the Energy Performance of Buildings (Certificates and Inspections) Regulations (N.I.) 2009 had been formally transferred to District Councils on 3 December 2009 by virtue of a statutory rule laid before the Assembly on 12 December 2009

The Building Control Manager reported that four nominated surveyors, employed by Belfast City Council to assist with energy performance certificate enforcement activities would work with each relevant District Council to ensure that EPC regulations were properly enforced. He stated that they would provide training and assistance to Building Control Officers, who would be responsible for the enforcement of the legislation once the pilot scheme had completed.

The Manager stated that, in order to ensure that the Council received full support from the pilot team, it was necessary for the four nominated surveyors to be authorised to carry out the relevant EPC duties within the Borough and he sought approval for a draft authorisation letter, copy of which was circulated.

Councillor Copeland enquired whether it would be part of the pilot team's duties to inspect building sites to ensure that foundations works did not cut through or damage public sewers. The Building Control Manager advised that this would not be part of the pilot team's duties but that the Council's Building Control officers would carry out this type of inspection.

The Building Control Manager suggested that the Committee invite Belfast City Council's Senior Building Control Surveyor to its meeting in September 2010 to provide additional information regarding the EPC pilot scheme.

RESOLVED:

- (a) that it be recommended that the Council approve the draft Authorisation Letter for use by the nominated surveyors
- (b) that the Committee invite Belfast City Council's Senior Building Control Surveyor to its meeting in September to provide further information regarding the EPC pilot scheme.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS – BUILDING CONTROL

T&ESC/2010/198 : DEVELOPMENT AT 64 GILNAHIRK ROAD

The Chair referred to a proposed development at 64 Gilnahirk Road that had recently received planning approval. He referred to the concerns of local residents regarding the development and, in particular, the possibility of any unauthorised changes to the nature and type of building. In response to his query, the Building Control Manager confirmed that building control officers would be inspecting the development.

Noted.

REPORT FROM THE OPERATIONAL SERVICES MANAGER (copy previously circulated)

T&ESC/2010/199: UPDATE ON CROSS TOWN WATER MAIN AT HYDEBANK

The Operational Services Manager referred to the update provided at the Committee's meeting in April 2010 and advised that the main pipeline installation works on the cross town water main through Hydebank playing fields had now been completed with only reinstatement works remaining. He reported that, following a recent site meeting, the contractors envisaged the remaining works would take approximately two weeks to complete subject to inspection and approval by Council officers.

Members were advised that an additional request has been received from Lagan Construction seeking permission to cross Council-owned land within Clulow Park, Milltown Road. Copy of this correspondence including a site map highlighting the proposed route had been previously circulated. In response to a query by Councillor Duncan regarding reinstatement of the park, the Manager advised that the area concerned was due for refurbishment and therefore reinstatement works should be beneficial to the Council.

RESOLVED:

- (a) that the Council note the progress of the cross town water main through the Council's land at Hydebank playing fields
- (b) that it be recommended that the Council approve the additional request from Lagan Construction to cross Council-owned land at Clulow Park, Milltown Road Castlereagh to facilitate the ongoing installation of the cross town water main.

T&ESC/2010/200 : COUNCIL LAND BETWEEN EDGAR AVENUE AND THE COUNCIL'S HRC SITE AT CARRYDUFF

The Operational Services Manager asked the Committee to consider the naming of land between Edgar Avenue, Carryduff, and the rear of the Council's Household Recycling Centre as 'Carryduff Park'. He advised that the park had recently benefitted from the creation of a new bio-diversity area and walk and the rationale was to raise the profile of this area for the benefit of local residents.

In response to a query by Alderman Rice regarding previous development proposals by Tesco for the area, the Operational Services Manager indicated that he would check with the Planning Officer in this regard.

After discussion, it was

RESOLVED:

- (a) that the Council be recommended to approve that the area of Council land between Edgar Avenue and the Carryduff HRC site be officially named as 'Carryduff Park'
- (b) that officers investigate whether Tesco's proposals for development in the area were still being pursued and report back to the Committee at a future meeting.

T&ESC/2010/201 : DRAINAGE AND PATHWAYS WITHIN TULLYCARNET PARK

The Operational Services Manager reported that, following the Committee's meeting in April 2010, the Council's Relief Capital Projects Officer (RCPO) had undertaken an assessment of the drainage and pathways within Tullycarnet Park. He advised that the extreme weather conditions over the winter months had been especially severe on the pathways and, in the most extreme case, patching on the main driveway had washed away during one night's heavy rainfall. As a result it would be necessary to resurface the pathways within the Park and to renew the main driveway drainage as a precautionary measure due to the gully system having been contaminated with the remnants of the pathway surface. Photographs of the pathways together with a map of the Park were circulated for Members' information.

The Manager advised that, following some initial enquiries, outline costs appeared to be in the region of £60 - £80k to include drainage, resurfacing, parking and DDA works on the site. Members were also advised that the park had recently been successful in securing stage 1 funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) to scope the possibilities of returning the park to its original layout. The Manager reported that the Council had also made provision of £150k to undertake the works in conjunction with the HLF stage 2 funding application but there was no guarantee that the stage 2 application would be successful. He stated that recent consultation between the Council's Economic Development Manager and the HLF suggested that stage 2 funding could be in jeopardy if work proceeded on the paths.

The Operational Services Manager advised that officers would be meeting on site with HLF representatives on 17 June 2010 to discuss the matter in greater detail as the proposed works would not change the overall aesthetics of the park but merely refurbish what was currently in place.

The Manager stated that the stage 2 funding process could take up to two years and he considered that resurfacing works could not be delayed. Accordingly he sought the Committee's approval to proceed to a tender process and release a portion of the necessary funds from the £150k provision when definitive costs were known.

Members expressed disappointment that the Council's application for stage 2 funding could be rejected on the grounds that the Council had carried out essential safety works to pathways. The Chair pointed out that, while the Heritage Lottery Fund had funded projects in other parts of Belfast, no funding had previously been made available in East Belfast. Reference was made to Heritage Lottery Fund's suggestion that the Council should introduce a corporate strategy covering all green space throughout the Borough in line with that adopted in Tullycarnet Park and Members expressed concern that this could impede or restrict other green space developments.

The Operational Services Manager stated that, in the absence of HLF funding, the Council's Technical & Environmental Services Department could carry out some of the improvement works included in the funding application as resources became available but he indicated that it would not be possible to develop the resource centre within the Park that had also been included in the funding application.

After discussion, Members considered that repairs to the pathways were a priority. In response to a query by the Chair regarding scheduling of the work, the Operational Services Manager advised that officers would be ready to put the work out to tender on 18 June 2010 and, with a four-week turn around, evaluation of tenders would take place in July with a report going to the July Council meeting for approval of the tender.

Further discussion ensued as to whether the works being put out to tender should include refurbishment of the play area in the parks and it was felt that it would be better to include this work.

It was then

RESOLVED:

- (a) that it be recommended that the Council approve the tender process for the resurfacing and driveway drainage works and refurbishment of the play area within Tullycarnet Park
- (b) It be further recommended that the current funding provision set aside for proposed works within the park via the HLF grant scheme be used to fund the drainage, pathway resurfacing works and new play area with immediate effect when full costs were known.

T&ESC/2010/202 : NO. 8 PITCH AT THE BILLY NEILL SOCCER CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

The Operational Services Manager referred to the Committee's discussions at its April meeting regarding the presence of rabbits at no. 8 pitch at the Billy Neill Soccer Centre of Excellence. He advised that the Council's insurers had advised that direct eradication of the rabbits was not recommended due to the close proximity of the

Comber Greenway and the Comber Road and the absence of appropriate insurance cover.

The Manager advised that the Council's Parks Section was currently assessing the possibility of extending the depth of the current perimeter fencing around the pitches on the Comber Road side of the Greenway. He stated that he would keep the Committee updated on this matter.

Noted.

T&ESC/2010/203 : UNAUTHORISED USE OF COUNCIL SOCCER FACILITIES

The Operational Services Manager reported that an investigation of complaints received from Lagan College regarding their booking of pitches at Henry Jones Playing Fields had revealed the unauthorised use of these facilities by a commercial soccer coaching company based in the area.

Members were advised that, despite displaying signs prohibiting unauthorised use of Council facilities and approaches by staff, the individual concerned refused to move from the pre-booked pitches to accommodate the booking by Lagan College. A copy of the legal advice received in respect of the use of Council owned facilities together with details of the Council's terms and conditions of hire had been previously circulated for Members' information.

In response to Members' queries, the Manager advised that Lagan College's block booking was for daytime use of the pitches during the week and that the facilities were available for hire by others during evenings and weekends.

RESOLVED: that the Council authorise officers to continue to liaise with the Council's solicitors and provide additional information in respect of the Council's booking terms and conditions in order to determine if the offence of trespass had occurred.

T&ESC/2010/204 : BOWLING AT DUNGOYNE COMMUNITY CENTRE

Members were advised that, following the Committee's meeting in April, a meeting had taken place between the Director of Administration & Community Services (DACs), the Community Services Manager (CSM) and the Operational Services Manager (OSM) to discuss the way forward with regard to Community Services' Dungoyne Community Centre.

It was reported that, although the process of relocating to the new Enler Centre had been ongoing for some time, the first approach by the Community Services Officer to the Technical & Environmental Services Department had been made in March 2010, by which time all bowling groups had been contacted and had informed the Council of their membership for the current season which runs from April to September each year.

Since the bowling season had already begun, the Operational Services Manager recommended that Community Services should continue to manage their building under the existing terms and conditions of use until a corporate solution could be established and agreed by Council. This would ensure continuity of service provision for the two remaining user groups of the Community Services building prior to any change in the

current arrangements. Members were assured that the Council's Parks Service would continue to maintain the bowling green during any transition period or until instructed to do otherwise by the Technical & Environmental Services Committee.

RESOLVED:

- (a) that the Council approve that the current arrangements at Dungoyne Community Centre be maintained until a corporate position was established by Council which could be conveyed to the remaining user groups.
- (b) that the Chair of the Technical & Environmental Services Committee together with Councillor Drysdale attend the next meeting of the Central Services Committee in order to endeavour to obtain a resolution of this issue.

T&ESC/2010/205 : COUNCIL FLORAL DISPLAYS

The Operational Services Manager reported that compliments had been received from a number of residents congratulating the Council's Parks Section on the quality of the floral displays across the Borough. Copies of the complimentary letters from residents had been previously circulated. Members also congratulated staff on the excellent floral displays throughout the Borough.

RESOLVED: that the Council express its thanks to staff in the Parks Section for the high quality of the floral displays throughout the Borough.

T&ESC/2010/206 : MEMBER OF STAFF ASSAULTED IN THE BRANIEL ESTATE

Members were advised that, following an assault on a member of staff in the refuse collection service on 20 April 2010, it had been suggested by members of the local community association that a meeting take place between all stakeholders to address the excessive waste issues that existed at Ravenswood Park and Braeside Close.

The Operational Services Manager advised that the incident had been reported to the PSNI and that the member of staff had subsequently made a full physical recovery. He reported that refuse collection had been suspended until assurances were received from local community members that the threats issued at the time of the incident were lifted and the remainder of the Council's collection service in the area had been completed the following day.

The Manager reported on issues relating to collection of waste in the area. He stated that officers had liaised with the Northern Ireland Housing Executive to arrange collection of waste that was blocking stairwells. He also referred to the incidence of contaminated waste and stated that it was not proposed to issue recycling bins in the area until these matters had been resolved.

After discussion it was

RESOLVED: that the Council approve the participation of relevant Council officers in a meeting forum to discuss the waste issues that existed at Ravenswood Park and Braeside Close in the Branial estate.

T&ESC/2010/207 : REVIEW OF SPECIAL COLLECTION SERVICE

Members were advised that, following a review of resources within the refuse collection service in conjunction with the introduction of the co-mingled collection of kitchen-sourced food waste in brown bins, it had become necessary to collapse collection of various waste streams in order to improve efficiency and to create an additional collection day to cater for the expected increase in brown bin collections.

It was reported that the review process would continue for the first quarter of the co-mingled collection of kitchen-sourced food waste and the Committee would be provided with updates on progress.

Noted.

Councillor Drysdale left the meeting at 8.00 pm and returned at 8.04 pm

Councillor Copeland left the meeting at 8.00 pm

T&ESC/2010/209 : CAREER BREAK REQUEST

It was reported that a request for a career break had been received on 19 April 2010 from the Operational Services Administration Officer to pursue foreign travel. Members were advised that the career break was due to commence on 1 September 2010 until 30 June 2011 and it was envisaged that the post could be covered by existing administrative staff within the Department on an acting-up basis and could potentially present a development opportunity. A copy of correspondence relating to the issue had been previously circulated.

After discussion it was

RESOLVED: that the request for a career break by the Operational Services Administration Officer be approved and the post covered by existing administrative staff within the Department on an acting-up basis.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS – OPERATIONAL SERVICES

T&ESC/2010/210 : BIN COLLECTIONS – RAISED LIDS AND OVERFILLED BINS

The Operational Services Manager tabled an information leaflet being distributed to households giving advice regarding the presentation of bins for collection. In response to Members' queries, he advised that bins that were overfilled or had lids raised presented manual handling difficulties and health & safety issues for staff.

Noted.

REPORT FROM THE ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH MANAGER

(copy previously circulated)

T&ESC/2010/211 : STATUTORY NOTICES - PUBLIC HEALTH (IRELAND) ACTS

1878 TO 1907

The Environmental Health Manager referred to his report detailing the Statutory Notices served in respect of the abatement of Public Health nuisances/conditions prejudicial to health.

Noted.

T&ESC/2010/212 : FOOD SERVICE PLAN FOR 2010/2011

The Committee considered the Food Service Plan for the Environmental Health Service Unit for 2010/2011 (copy previously circulated), which reviewed the performance of the food control function over the year 2009/2010 and presented the proposed service delivery for 2010/2011. It was noted that this plan was the Council's commitment to delivering a food control service in accordance with all the relevant legislation and associated guidance.

The Environmental Health Manager advised that the plan confirmed that there were a greater number of tasks required than the Service Unit had resources to deliver. He advised that the continuing use of alternative means of enforcement for lower risk premises would assist in reducing this imbalance to a manageable level.

Alderman Rice stated that she had found the Food Service Plan to be very informative and suggested that officers should be congratulated on their work in producing the plan.

RESOLVED:

- (a) that the Council note and approve the Food Service Plan for 2010/2011
- (b) that the Council express its appreciation of the efforts of the Environmental Health Service officers involved in producing the Food Service Plan for 2010/2011.
- (c)

T&ESC/2010/213 : CONSUMPTION OF INTOXICATING LIQUOR IN DESIGNATED PLACES - DRINKING IN DESIGNATED AREAS

The Environmental Health Manager reported that he had been advised by PSNI that two juveniles had recently been detected drinking in the Borough contrary to the Council's bye-laws and were being processed through the PSNI's Youth Diversion Scheme.

Noted.

T&ESC/2010/214 : THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) (NI) ORDER 1985 - ARTICLE 3 – LICENSING OF PLACES OF ENTERTAINMENT – RENEWAL OF LICENCES

The Environmental Health Manager referred to his report outlining applications received for the grant of entertainment licences.

RESOLVED : That the Council be recommended to grant approval for the renewal of Entertainments Licences, as outlined in the Environmental Health Manager's report, subject to receipt of all required documentation.

T&ESC/2010/215 : THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) (NI) ORDER 1985 - ARTICLE 3 – LICENSING OF PLACES OF ENTERTAINMENT – GRANT OF A LICENCE

The Environmental Health Manager referred to his report outlining an application received for the grant of an entertainment licence.

RESOLVED : That the Council be recommended to approve the grant of an Entertainments Licence, as outlined in the Environmental Health Manager's report, subject to receipt of all required documentation

T&ESC/2010/216 : PETROLEUM CONSOLIDATION ACT (NI) 1929 – GRANT OF PETROLEUM LICENCES

The Environmental Health Manager referred to his report outlining the detail of an application received for the grant of a licence to store petroleum. He explained that the licence related to premises where petroleum had been previously stored but which had been closed for a period of time while undergoing a complete refurbishment. He advised that this had included installation of underground petroleum and diesel tanks and suction lines with secondary containment as well as the fitting of new fill, vent and vapour recovery lines.

RESOLVED : That the Council be recommended to approve the grant of a licence to store petroleum, as outlined in the Environmental Health Manager's report, subject to receipt of all required documentation.

T&ESC/2010/217 : PETROLEUM INCIDENT

The Environmental Health Manager reported on a recent incident that had occurred outside normal working hours on 11 May 2010 when there was a spillage of petroleum liquid on the forecourt of a local filling station due to a car's petrol tank splitting whilst being filled with petroleum spirit.

The Manager advised that the Council's Environmental Health Service Unit had provided advice and instructions as how to respond to this spillage. He stated that Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service (NIFRS) had arrived on site with used sand to absorb the spilled fuel and the site had re-opened at 12.45 am on the same night. He reported that Environmental Health officers had carried out a site inspection the next morning and no further action had been required.

Noted.

T&ESC/2010/218 : DOGS (NORTHERN IRELAND) ORDER 1983 – PROPOSED MOVE TO NEW KENNELING PROVIDER ON 1 JUNE 2010

The Environmental Health Manager reported that, with effect from 1 June 2010, the Council would be changing the service provider of its dog kennelling facilities. He stated that, due to the pending closure of the present kennels operated by the USPCA, dogs could no longer be held at the site at Drumview Road (off Hillsborough Road), Carryduff and instead all stray and unwanted dogs would be kennelled at Lisburn City Council Dog Pound, Altona Road, Lisburn, from 1 June 2010.

The Manager advised that the new dog pound's opening hours for reclaiming stray dogs would be Monday to Friday between 12.30pm and 2.30pm. He stated that, in exceptional circumstances, it might be possible to reclaim dogs outside these hours by special arrangement with Lisburn City Council staff. This could be done by the dog owner telephoning Lisburn City Council on (028) 92509396 and staff would try, if possible, to offer an alternative time but it should be noted that this might not always be possible due to other operational commitments by Lisburn City Council's Dog Wardens.

In response to a query by the Chair, the Manager advised that there had not been a great demand for an out of hours service within the Castlereagh area. He undertook to seek further clarification from Lisburn City Council regarding the availability of the out of hours service.

The Manager reported that the fees payable to reclaim a stray dog varied from £20.00 on the 1st day (day of seizure), rising by £8.00 per day or part thereof to a maximum of £60.00 on the 6th day.

RESOLVED: that the Council note the arrangements for new kennelling provision and that officers be asked to seek further clarification regarding the out of hours service.

T&ESC/2010/219 : THE LITTER (NORTHERN IRELAND) ORDER 1994 - FAILURE TO PAY FIXED PENALTY NOTICES FOR LITTERING OFFENCES

The Environmental Health Manager provided the details of an individual from Moira who had failed to pay a Fixed Penalty Notice for a littering offence.

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED : That the Council be recommended to grant approval to instigate legal proceedings, under the Litter (NI) Order 1994, against a person from Moira for failing to pay a Fixed Penalty Notice.

T&ESC/2010/220 : STREET TRADING ACT (NI) ORDER 2001 – RENEWAL OF A STREET TRADERS LICENCE

The Environmental Health Manager outlined details of an application for renewal of a Street Trader's Licence at 39 Manse Road, Ballygowan, BT23 6HE, regarding the sale of hot food from a box van at Hillmount Drive, Moneyreagh, between the hours of 3.00 pm and 6.30 pm, Monday to Friday inclusive.

RESOLVED: That the Council be recommended to grant approval for renewal of a Street Traders Licence at 39 Manse Road, Ballygowan, regarding the sale of hot food from a trailer unit at Hillmount Drive, Moneyreagh.

T&ESC/2010/221 : STREET TRADING ACT (NI) ORDER 2001 – RENEWAL OF A MOBILE TRADERS LICENCE APPLICATION

The Environmental Health Manager referred to an application for renewal of a Mobile Trader's Licence relating to the sale of ice cream, crisps and confectionery between the hours of 12.00 noon and 7.00 pm Monday to Sunday inclusive. He advised that consultations were taking place with the PSNI as required by the legislation.

RESOLVED: That the Council be recommended to grant approval for renewal of a Mobile Trader's Licence relating to the sale of ice cream, crisps and confectionery between the hours of 12.00 noon and 7.00 pm Monday to Sunday inclusive, subject to the PSNI having no objections to this renewal.

T&ESC/2010/222 : STAFF TRAINING – CHARTERED INSTITUTE OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH: SIX PACK PROGRAMME

Members were reminded that the Council required all Environmental Health Officers to be registered with the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health (CIEH) and, in order to maintain this standard, each officer required a minimum of 20 hours' continuous professional development (CPD).

The Environmental Health Manager reported that, recognising the burden this training placed on officers and on the Council in terms of both finance and resources, the CIEH in Northern Ireland had developed a training programme for this financial year that consisted of 6 training days throughout the year on wide ranging environmental health activities. He stated that he had secured 20 places in total over these 6 training days at a cost of £750.00 and advised that this represented only £37.50 per officer per training session and was therefore excellent value for money. He advised that that financial provision had been made in the 2010/11 budget for this accredited training programme.

RESOLVED: that the Council approve training for Environmental Health Officers as detailed above at a total cost of £750.

T&ESC/2010/223 : STAFF TRAINING – DIPLOMA IN ACOUSTIC & NOISE CONTROL

The Environmental Health Manager referred to the Unit's responsibility for determining noise nuisance, providing comments on noise reports in relation to planning consultations. He advised that he had received a request from the lead officer in Pollution Control, whose duties included the investigation of noise complaints, to undertake the above qualification.

The Manager advised that the qualification was through distance learning at Trinity College, Dublin, and included 14 tutorial days and 2 exam days and that the cost of the qualification was £3,000, which included the registration and examination fee of £750, tuition fee of £2,000 and approximately £250 travelling costs.

The Manager stated that there was currently no officer within the Environmental Health Service Unit with this qualification and, given the technical nature of the job, he supported the officer's request. As there was no financial provision to undertake this qualification within the current financial year, he sought the Committee's approval to secure funding for the next financial year.

In response to Members' queries regarding the need or desirability for this qualification, the Manager advised that it was not an essential criterion for the officer's post but that it would improve the skill base within the Environmental Health Unit. Councillor J Beattie advised that he could not support the request on the basis that it would set a precedent and would open the door for requests for funding of high level qualifications that served mainly to improve an individual officer's career prospects rather than contribute to the work of the Council.

Alderman Rice suggested that any offer of funding could include a pay back clause to cover the staff member leaving the Council's employment after receipt of the qualification. After discussion and, at the suggestion of the Chair, it was

RESOLVED: that the Environmental Health Manager be asked to present a business case to the Committee regarding the officer's request for funding and that a final decision on the matter be deferred in the interim.

T&ESC/2010/224 : STAFF TRAINING – CHARTERED INSTITUTE OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH – TRAIN THE TRAINER

Members were reminded that the Environmental Health Service Unit had to date delivered a number of bespoke and CIEH accredited training courses to food business operators within the Council area.

The Environmental Health Manager advised that, in order to deliver a CIEH accredited course, an officer must be a CIEH registered trainer and the Unit's only registered officer had terminated her contract with the Council. In order for the Unit to continue to deliver training to food business operators to help reduce the incidents of food poisoning and other food safety issues, the Manager sought approval for an officer to attend the accredited training course.

The Manager advised that training would take place from 9.30 am to 5.00 pm on 20 & 21 October 2010 at The Mount Business Centre with an assessment day on 11 November 2010 and the cost would be £300 to include the examination fee.

RESOLVED: that the Council approve the attendance of an officer at the CIEH Train the Trainer course as detailed above at a cost of £300.

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT FROM THE ENVIRONMENT HEALTH MANAGER

(copy circulated at the meeting)

T&ESC/2010/225 : CONSUMPTION OF INTOXICATING LIQUOR IN DESIGNATED PLACES

The Environmental Health Manager reported on witness statements received from the PSNI regarding 3 incidents of contravention of the Council's byelaws.

RESOLVED: that the Council approve instigation of legal actions against the individuals detailed in the Environmental Manager's report for contravention of the Council's byelaws.

T&ESC/2010/226 : CONSULTATION DOCUMENT ON CARAVANS BILL

The Environmental Health Manager reminded Members that, at the Council meeting in May, he had been asked to present a report to the Committee on the Caravans Bill. He circulated a detailed report on the Caravans Bills and explained that the purpose of the Bill was to introduce statutory protections similar to those in Great Britain for persons occupying a caravan as their main residence on sites that had been approved for that purpose. He advised that the bill also created a level of protection for caravan owners on seasonal sites by introducing a requirement for written agreements between site owners and caravan owners.

RESOLVED: that the Council agree that the report by the Environmental Health Manager be submitted as the Council's response to consultation on the Caravans Bill.

REPORT FROM THE CLIENT MANAGER

(copy previously circulated)

T&ESC/2010/227 : TONNAGES DEPOSITED AT LANDFILL

The Client Manager attached to his report for Members' information the monthly tonnages deposited at landfill together with the figures in relation to street sweepers for April 2010. He asked Members to also note the details on tonnage variances and indicative impacts on 2010/2011 budgets.

Noted.

Councillor Robinson left the meeting at 7.28 pm. Alderman Rice then took the Chair.

T&ESC/2010/228 : EDUCATIONAL TALKS/VISITS

The Client Manager referred to environmental educational talks/visits carried out between March 2010 and May 2010 (copy previously circulated).

Noted.

T&ESC/2010/229 : ECO-SCHOOLS PARTNERSHIP

The Client Manager advised that Eco-Schools was an international award programme that guided schools on their sustainable journey, providing a framework to help embed the principles of sustainable living into the heart of school life. He stated that, once registered, schools followed a simple seven-step process which helped them address a variety of environmental themes, ranging from litter and waste to healthy living and biodiversity. Schools worked towards gaining one of three awards – Bronze, Silver and the prestigious Green Flag award, which symbolised excellence in the field of environmental activity.

The Manager reported that, along with several other Councils, Castlereagh was fully supportive of Eco Schools and officers had helped guide many schools within the Borough to Green Flag Status. He advised that this helped build relationships with schools in the Borough and also created many ‘good news’ stories and press opportunities for the Council. He reported that the Council had also a dedicated section of the Eco Schools website that schools could access.

He reported that part of this partnership involved an annual contribution from participating Councils to enable Eco-Schools to carry out their work and the annual charge for 2010/11 was £200. He advised that there were sufficient funds in this year’s budgets to cover the charge.

RESOLVED: that the Council grant approval for a financial contribution of £200 towards Eco-Schools for the year 2010/11.

Councillor Robinson returned to the meeting at 7.30 pm and resumed the chair.

T&ESC/2010/230 : HOME COMPOST WEEK (2-8 MAY 2010)

The Client Manager reported that the tenth Annual International Compost Awareness Week (CAW) had taken place from 2-8 May 2010. He stated that CAW 2010 aimed to encourage more people to realise the benefits of home composting and the great results that could be achieved by using “peat-free” composts containing recycled material.

The Manager advised that, to promote this event, the Recycling and Education Officer had brought the arc21 education vehicle to the Tesco Store, Newtownbreda Road, and to both Council household recycling centres. Members of the public had been given information, advice and guidance on the benefits of home composting and had also been offered a free promotional bag of Rosey Lee compost. Members noted that, during the week, over 60 members of the public had been spoken to and 40 promotional bags of compost had been handed out.

The Manager advised that Rosey Lee compost was produced by Natural World Products (NWP), the contractor for the arc21 Organics Contract operating the in-vessel composting facility at Glenside. He stated that the promotional peat-free compost was derived from co-mingled brown bin wastes processed at Glenside.

The Manager reported that a promotional bag of the compost had also been offered to Council Members so that they could be fully informed of its qualities and were able to encourage and promote its use with confidence.

Noted.

T&ESC/2010/231 : SALE OF HOME COMPOST

The Client Manager reported that, in order to further promote and encourage the use of peat-free composts and close the recycling loop, it was proposed that the Council offer for sale bags of Rosey Lee compost to householders at cost price, currently £2.25 per 50 litre bag, with the compost being purchased through arc21 and in accordance with the Council's procurement procedures. He stated that it would also be a positive message reinforcing the benefits of separating and composting both garden and food wastes.

The Manager advised that officers were currently looking at administrative, storage, promotional and other logistical issues and hoped to have a system in place in the coming weeks. Whilst the Council's website would be the main hub for promoting its use and sale, it would also lend itself to an initial press release and or/article as a "good news" story.

RESOLVED: that the Council approve the sale of bags of peat-free compost to householders at cost price with the compost being derived from the arc21 Organics Contract.

T&ESC/2010/232 : RECYCLING WITHIN THE CIVIC CENTRE

The Client Manager referred to his previous reports regarding the re-launch of recycling within the Civic Centre and the addition of the separation, collection and recycling of food waste and advised that, in the first two weeks of operation, 26.6kg of food waste had been collected. He stated that, using this figure and extrapolating for the rest of the current year, there would be over 690kg (0.6 tonnes) of food waste being diverted from landfill. He undertook to keep the Committee informed of further developments.

Noted.

T&ESC/2010/233 : ENVIRONMENTAL YOUTH SPEAK (2010)

The Client Manager referred to his report to Committee in April (Minute No. T&ESC/2010/159 refers) and advised that the Northern Ireland final had been held in Magherafelt District Council Offices on 29 April 2010. He reported that the winners from the arc21 region were Emma Gault from Fairview Primary School, Newtownabbey, and Christopher McNeilly from Ballyclare High School, Newtownabbey. He advised that the

overall Northern Ireland winners were Jade Murray from Limavady Central Primary School (North West Region) and Jason Bunting from St Paul's Junior High School in Cookstown (South West Region).

Noted.

T&ESC/2010/234 : WRAP RECYCLING MANAGERS COURSE (SEPT 2010)

The Client Manager reported that, as part of its on-going development programme for Council officers and those working in the waste management industry, the Waste & Resource Action Programme (WRAP) was running its Recycling Managers, Stage 1, Course in Bristol from 28 – 30 September 2010. He advised that this was an intense 3-day course which, upon completion, would equip participants with the relevant knowledge and skills to develop, promote and monitor efficient recycling schemes for the separation, collection and sorting of materials from the household waste stream to meet statutory diversion targets and end market requirements.

The Manager indicated that, apart from the cost of a return flight, which should be under £100, and transport to and from the hotel, WRAP would be meeting course costs. He stated that there were sufficient funds within current budgets to meet the costs of flights and transport to and from the hotel.

RESOLVED: that the Council grant approval for the Education & Recycling Officer to attend the WRAP Recycling Managers Course in Bristol during September 2010, with the Council meeting the cost of flights and transport to and from the hotel.

T&ESC/2010/235 : WEEKLY SEPARATE COLLECTION OF FOOD WASTE TRIAL

The Client Manager reported that the trial for the weekly separate collection of food waste from households had been introduced in June 2009 and had been operating for almost 12 months, during which time over 53 tonnes of food waste has been collected and diverted from landfill. He stated that the service was operating satisfactorily with high levels of participation and customer satisfaction.

With studies showing that higher diversion rates for food waste were recorded against weekly separate collections and, with the pending introduction of the co-mingled collection of food waste in the brown bin, it was recommended that the trial continue for a further 12 months so that officers could compare and evaluate the results of both the separate and co-mingled collection of food waste to see which performed best in terms of diversion from landfill.

The Manager advised that, for the year 2010/11, Bryson Recycling costs for the promotion, collection and processing of kerbside collected food waste were as follows:

Variable processing rate per tonne	£44.55 (Baxter rate adjustment mid year)
Skip uplift at Mallusk	£90 per lift
Promotional	£2 per household per annum

He stated that the processing and treatment rate for the food waste at NWP's Glenside facility was under the arc21 Organics Contract at contract rates.

The Manager advised that Central Government had proposed a £3m fund for infrastructure and sales and he suggested that the Council consider options for use of this funding as follows:

1. Reduction of bin size from standard 240lt bins to 140lt bins
2. Introduction of stackable kerbies
3. Extending the weekly food waste collection trial

With regard to option 1, he stated that, while a grant could cover costs of purchase and distribution, he felt that there could be objections from householders. He stated that the aim would be to reduce the number of bins per household to a single bin but that the best time to do this might be at the advent of RPA when Lisburn and Castlereagh waste collections would be unified. He stated that he felt that the introduction of stackable kerbies (option 2) was the more appropriate option. He felt that it was too soon to comment on option 3, the extension of the weekly food waste trial.

He advised that the closing date for funding applications was the end of June and that he would be meeting with Bryson Recycling later in the week to discuss the issue. He advised that officers would then prepare a funding application based on these discussions.

The Manager advised that kitchen caddies had been delivered around households in mid-June and that there was one available for each Council Member

RESOLVED:

- (a) that the Council grant approval for the weekly separate collection of food waste trial to be continued for a further 12 months.
- (b) That the Council note Bryson Recycling's charges for the year 2010/11
- (c) that officers be authorised to continue discussions with Bryson Recycling and submit an application for funding for the introduction of stackable kerbies.

Councillor Jeffers left the meeting at 7.35 pm

T&ESC/2010/236 : DEWATERING OF STREET SWEEPING RESIDUES (2010/2011)

Members were advised that, before street sweeping residues could be landfilled, they must first undergo pre-treatment to remove any liquid wastes from the residues. It was reported that, along with other arc21 Councils, the Council was using the Belfast City Council tender with street sweeping residues being delivered to Irish Waste, Duncrue, Belfast, for processing and pre-treatment prior to being landfilled (Minute Nos WMWG/2008/22 & T&ESC/2008/351 refer). The Client Manager reported that costs for the current financial year were £42/tonne processing and pre-treatment with a current landfill charge of £15.75/tonne. He stated that the landfill charge would increase around December in line with the arc21 Landfill Contract and that costs for processing, pre-treatment and landfill had been provided for within current budgets.

RESOLVED: that the Council approve the current arrangement regarding the processing, pre-treatment and landfilling of street cleansing residues, with residues being delivered to Irish Waste.

T&ESC/2010/237 : ARC21 CONTRACT FOR THE SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF WHEELED REFUSE CONTAINERS, 55L KERBSIDE BOXES, BOTTLE BANKS, HOME COMPOST UNITS, KITCHEN CADDIES AND COMPOSTABLE KITCHEN CADDY LINERS

The Client Manager referred to his report to Committee in April regarding the above arc21 tender exercise (Minute No T&ESC/2010/161 refers), and the issue of the outstanding award of contract for the 55 litre kerbie boxes and 7 litre vented kitchen caddies. He stated that, following clarification, arc21 had now completed the tender process and as such the following companies had been recommended as arc21 suppliers for one year, with possible extension up to 12 months:

Goods	Supplier
55 litre kerbside boxes with black lid	Coral Products
55 litre red kerbside boxes with black lid	Straight
7 litre vented kitchen caddies	Enviroways

RESOLVED: that the Council approve the appointment of the above suppliers for the supply and delivery of 55 litre kerbside boxes and 7 litre vented kitchen caddies, in accordance with the arc21 tender exercise.

(Councillor Jeffers returned to the meeting at 7.38 pm)

T&ESC/2010/238 : TENDER FOR THE KERBSIDE COLLECTION OF MULTI-MATERIALS FOR RECYCLING

Members were reminded that the Council had been operating with the Bryson Recycling kerbie box service under the above tender since 2006 and that, in October 2008, approval had been granted to extend the contract beyond the contract period of 31 May 2009, with extensions up to a maximum of two years, i.e. 31 May 2011 (Minute No WMWG/2008/41 refers). The Client Manager advised that the Council must now decide whether or not to go out to tender for a further three year period, commencing 1 June 2011, with extensions up to a maximum of two years.

The Manager reported that the contract had been working satisfactorily with high levels of participation, material diversion and householder satisfaction. He stated that the Council had also been able to benefit from the sale of materials through the material revenue share element of the contract due to buoyant material prices and also the high quality of materials being collected through source-separation. He indicated that material quality was now high on the agenda of all material reprocessors.

The Manager reported that, whilst there might still be some debate as to whether or not the kerbie box system, which source-separated the materials at kerbside, was a more

preferable option over the blue bin co-mingled system, which sorted the materials at a Material Processing Facility (MRF), studies carried out by the Waste & Resource Action Programme (WRAP) were weighted towards source-separation as being the preferred option. Indeed, in a study carried out for arc21 by WRAP which took a strategic view on the optimal kerbside recycling collection system, kerbside sort was seen as the preferred option. It is accepted however, that kerbside sort may not be the most suitable option in every case and that the collection system adopted would be influenced by local factors.

The Manager recommended therefore that the Council should continue with the kerbside source-separation and collection of multi-materials beyond May 2011 and should undertake a new tender exercise for the service. As part of the tender exercise he indicated that it was proposed to explore possible collaborative arrangements with other arc21 Councils using the kerbie box system to see whether or not there would be any direct benefit to the Council from a joint tender exercise between the Councils.

RESOLVED: that the Council approve the initiating of a tender exercise for the kerbside sorting and collection of multi-materials for recycling.

T&ESC/2010/239 : FORMER LANDFILL SITE AT BALLYGOWAN

The Client Manager provided a detailed report to Committee on the former landfill site at Moss Road, Ballygowan.

Correspondence from the Department of the Environment

Members were reminded that, at its meeting in April, the Committee had considered a letter from the Permanent Secretary at the Department of the Environment regarding the introduction of legislation under Article 13 of the Landfill Directive which would be retrospective and would impose a closure regime on Councils that had closed their sites after July 2001 but before the transposition of the legislation.

The Client Manager reported that, following the Committee's meeting in April, there had been a meeting between Chief Executives of the 5 affected Councils together with supporting officers and legal and technical advisors in order to discuss issues and adopt a common approach to the Department. Subsequently there had been a meeting with the Department on 20 May 2010 attended by representatives of the 5 Councils, the Environment Agency and Climate and Waste Division (copy agenda previously circulated).

The Manager advised that Environment Agency staff had reported that Councils were "emanations of the state" and would be treated as such by the E.U legislature. It was reported that the UK had already been infracted because of its failure to transpose the landfill directive and responsibility for this now lay solely with Northern Ireland. He advised that fines, if imposed, could be significant and although levels of fines were not known, fines in recent cases had been of the order of £50 million to £150 million.

The Manager reported that the DOE had met with the E.U officials and would be meeting again in the autumn and planned to put up a robust response which would demonstrate transposition of this legislation and a course of action that would confirm

compliance. As part of this procedure they hoped to put in place a formal agreement with the Councils undertaking a 3 step approach:

- Assessment of each site
- Capital works on each site
- Ongoing management and monitoring arrangements for each site.

Departmental staff anticipated that it would be 12 – 18 months before significant expenditure would be incurred.

The Client Manager stated that the Department had undertaken to write to the Councils before 1 June giving them further information about the approach and discussing the possibility of financial support. He advised that this letter had not yet been received. Councillor Copeland suggested that the Council should write to the Department expressing its disappointment that it had not received the information that had been promised by the Department.

The Manager reported that other issues discussed included the requirement that financial provision for after care of closed landfill site would be increased from a 30 year period to a 60 year period and that a provision was considered that required works must be paid for out of revenue and not capital. He stated that the Departmental officials had undertaken to raise this matter with local government audit and it was noted that both these items would have serious financial implications for Councils.

The Manager reported that Castlereagh's position had also been discussed with regard to the Council's agreement to appoint consultants to progress capping and other investigatory works and this could possibly lead to nugatory work if a similar procurement exercise was undertaken to ensure compliance with Article 13 of the Landfill Directive. Castlereagh officers had expressed their concern that, whereas it would appear prudent to suspend the procurement exercise to avoid nugatory work, the Council did not want to be vulnerable to prosecution by NIEA for failure to progress works in a timely manner. He advised that DOE officials had understood Castlereagh's position and had agreed that the appointment by Castlereagh of consultants could lead to nugatory work. It was reported that preparation of a brief for consultants would be continued but not advertised in the interim until the brief for the DOE appointed consultants had been agreed.

Proposed Capping Works at Former Landfill Site

It was noted that, as detailed above, the preparation of the brief for the employment of consultants would continue but a tender would not be advertised until it was demonstrated that it was necessary to do so.

Correspondence received from Northern Ireland Water

The Client Manager referred to the report considered at the Committee's April meeting that Northern Ireland Water had indicated that the permissible ammonia level in leachate being received at NIW treatment works would be reduced to 100milligrams per litre.

He reported that a meeting had been held between Council officers and officials from Northern Ireland Water to discuss requirements for this limit, possible timescale for its introduction and possible actions which could be taken by the Council to reduce the current ammonia level.

The Manager advised that Northern Ireland Water had stated that NIEA had imposed stricter discharge limits, which required them to then impose stricter limits on incoming leachate. Northern Ireland Water indicated that this requirement would come into place with the Council's tankered agreement in 6-9 months. He reported that, in the short term, Council officers had increased the aeration taking place in the lagoon at the landfill site and were investigating further steps to be taken for reducing levels. He stated that further reports would be brought to Members to keep them updated.

Environmental impairment Liability Insurance

Members were reminded that the Council's insurers had withdrawn cover for pre-existing conditions. The Client Manager advised that there was concern in relation to ongoing pollution of the adjacent stream to the former landfill site and a meeting had been held between Council officers and NIEA officials to discuss management action at the landfill site to minimise pollution. It was hoped to provide a letter of comfort to the insurers regarding this. He stated that preliminary discussions had taken place and a meeting was being arranged towards the end of June. He undertook to update the Committee with regard to progress.

Financial Provision/Management Action

Members were advised that leachate tankered off site was increased by a factor 3 to minimise the risk of environmental pollution and a possible enforcement action. The Client Manager advised that this was continuing and the reduction of leachate levels had been supported by a spell of dry weather. He advised that, whereas leachate levels in the landfill site had gone down marginally, the lagoon had been emptied and would now be cleaned and filled again. He advised that monitoring of levels would continue.

The Client Manager referred to a landfill site at Ballymena that had a treatment works on site. He indicated that this had cost in the region of £400k. He stated that this site received more waste than Castlereagh's site and was also burning off methane. The Manager suggested that the Committee might wish to visit the landfill site at Ballymena. He also referred to various methods that could be used in the future management of the landfill site including aeration, biological action, tankering and reed beds.

The Client Manager asked the Committee to note the issues relating to management of the former landfill site at Ballygowan and undertook to update the Committee on further developments.

After discussion it was

RESOLVED:

- (a) that the Council note developments relating to management of the former landfill site at Ballygowan as detailed in the Client Manager's report

- (b) that officers be authorised to proceed with arrangements for Members to visit recycling centres (Huhtamaki & NWP) and the landfill site at Ballymena.

T&ESC/2010/240 : CONSULTATION – WASTE AND CONTAMINATED LAND (AMENDMENT) BILL

The Client Manager referred to a draft response prepared by arc21 (copy previously circulated) and advised that this had been subsequently amended at the Joint Committee meeting on 25 May 2010. He stated that the contents of this response were consistent with comments submitted in the appropriate section of the Waste Bill last year. He asked Members to note that Council's new enforcement powers, although discretionary, would inevitably have cost implications that were unlikely to be absorbed by the potential for some cost recovery. He advised that it was being recommended that Councils should be given an adequate level of resource from central government to enable them to properly commit to any new pollution powers.

RESOLVED: that the Council support the amended arc21 response to the Waste and Contaminated Land (Amendment) Bill.

Councillor Copeland left at 7.55 pm

T&ESC/2010/241 : PROPOSED HOUSEHOLD RECYCLING CENTRE TO SERVE THE DUNDONALD AREA

Members were reminded that the Leisure Park Board did not wish for the household recycling centre to be constructed adjacent to the caravan park and had recommended consideration of a site adjacent to David Lloyd. It was reported that Council officers had met with the consultants appointed to progress this matter (RPS) and more detailed consideration was being given to the two possible sites adjacent to David Lloyd. The Client Manager undertook to update the Committee regarding progress.

The Chair indicated that he had a different recollection of the discussion that had taken place at the Leisure Park Board on this issue. The Client Manager undertook to provide him with a copy of the relevant minute.

Noted.

T&ESC/2010/242 : CONNSWATER COMMUNITY GREENWAY

The Client Manager reported that it was hoped that the design and build contractor for this project would be appointed in the autumn. He advised that the original intention was that the employer would be the East Belfast Partnership but this had now changed and it was planned that the employer would be Belfast City Council. He stated that this brought some advantages, in particular, in relation to VAT and to a level of comfort provided to prospective tenderers. It was not thought that there were any implications for the Council.

Noted.

T&ESC/2010/243 : PROPOSED PLAYGROUND AT BRED A TERRACE/UPGRADE OF EXISTING PLAYGROUND AT COLBY PARK

The Client Manager reported that the successful tenderer planned to be on site on both these projects in June and to finish at the end of June. The Committee considered a letter from supporters of the playground at Colby Park (copy previously circulated) and noted that they were pleased with the progress but were making the following suggestions:

- Signs that dogs were not permitted around the play equipment
- Sign in Newton Park indicating the location of the playground
- Safety surfacing on the concrete bank beside the slide
- Existing two chair swings and one baby swing be relocated to the grass area adjacent to the playground site.

The Manager advised that the first two matters were straightforward and could be actioned without difficulty. He expressed concern about the costs that could be involved in the other two suggestions. He also referred to the fact that moving the swings to the grassed area would mean that this area could not then be used as open space. Councillor AM Beattie stated that, if the swings were moved to the grassed area, they would require safety surfacing.

The Client Manager suggested that officers should investigate the cost of the safety surfacing and review the condition of the chair swings when they were taken out of the playground site to see if they could be reused and/or relocated.

RESOLVED: that Council proceed with installation of signs as requested by the residents' group but that the suggestion regarding safety surfacing beside the slide be kept under review and that child's swings should not be relocated.

T&ESC/2010/244 : REQUEST FOR PLAYGROUND IN VICINITY OF ENLER PARK EAST

The Committee considered correspondence received from Misses Rebekah and Rachel Lynn (aged 9 ½ years) (copy previously circulated) requesting a playground in the vicinity of Enler Park East and advising that they had recently lifted a significant amount of litter between Moat Park and their home whilst returning home. The Client Manager reported that a letter and a small goody bag had been forwarded as a small thank you for their efforts and an undertaking had been given to raise their request at the Technical and Environmental Services Committee.

The Manager suggested that the Committee advise the children that, as there were three playgrounds in the Ballybeen area, the Council was now concentrating on providing playgrounds for areas in Castlereagh that had no playgrounds.

Councillor Drysdale suggested that, when a new Mayor was installed at the AGM, that the children should be invited to the Mayor's Parlour for tea and thank you.

RESOLVED: that the Council advise the children that it would not be possible to provide a playground facility as requested and that, after the AGM, they be invited to meet the Mayor as a thank you.

T&ESC/2010/245 : REQUEST FOR PLAYGROUND IN MONEYREAGH AREA

The Committee considered correspondence from Alderman Kieran McCartney JP MLA (copy previously circulated) who was writing on behalf of residents of Moneyreagh who were concerned with the lack of safe and secure play facilities, the poor provision of play items for youngsters, and other issues such as the state of the perimeter wall, dog mess, litter etc.

The Client Manager suggested that he would respond detailing the inspections carried out to ensure that the playground was safe together with a summary of the cleaning regime which demonstrated that the Council made all reasonable attempts to keep the playground clean. He also stated that, if residents ever felt that the playground was either unsafe or unclean, they should report this to Council and an inspection would take place followed by appropriate action.

The Manager also suggested that he would advise that the Council was undertaking negotiations with the Northern Ireland Housing Executive with a view to the co-disposal of the playground and adjacent NIHE lands and, if this happened, funds would be provided for the construction of a new playground adjacent to the Moneyreagh Community Centre.

RESOLVED: that the Council agree that officers respond to the correspondence from Alderman McCartney as detailed above.

T&ESC/2010/246 : REQUEST FOR SECONDMENT

The Client Manager reported that an Administration Assistant within the Client Services Section had been offered a secondment by Belfast City Council within their Building Control Department as a Business Administrator (Energy Performance Certificates). He advised that the secondment was initially until 31 December 2010, subject to review. He stated that the officer had asked permission for the secondment and was keen to undertake the role as it would be an excellent personal opportunity. He reported that, if this request for secondment was approved, the officer would be replaced by an agency member of staff and this would be done at no cost to the Council and should provide a modest saving.

RESOLVED: that the request for secondment by an Administration Assistant within the Client Services Section be approved.

T&ESC/2010/247 : EXAM SUCCESS – CERTIFICATE OF PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCE

The Client Manager advised the Committee that the Garage Foreman had recently passed his exams and had obtained a Certificate of Professional Competence issued by the Road Transport Training Board. The Manager advised that this might prove beneficial to the Council when the 'O' licensing regime was put in place.

RESOLVED: that the Council congratulate the Garage Foreman on his exam success.

T&ESC/2010/248 : PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT – IPLAY

The Committee considered an email from the Area Sales Manager of Playdale Playgrounds Limited (copy previously circulated), who were arranging a trip to meet the research scientists from Loughborough University who had developed the i-play concept. Playdale were suggesting that one or two Members might wish to join the trip as this would help Members gain confidence in the concept and useability of the equipment. The Client Manager advised that the group would be flying from Belfast to East Midlands airport early on 7 July 2010 and would be returning later that evening.

Members expressed reservations about accepting the invitation from the company that supplied the playground equipment. They referred to the fact that they had previously viewed the equipment at Stormont but that it had not been working properly due to weather conditions. After discussion it was

RESOLVED: that the Council do not accept the invitation from Playdale Playgrounds Limited to join the trip to Loughborough University.

T&ESC/2010/249 : TEMPORARY SUB-STATION WITHIN THE PARK AT RODDENS CRESCENT

Members were advised that NIEA would be constructing a temporary sub-station adjacent to the existing sub-station within the park at Roddens Crescent to facilitate the construction of a new sub-station on the existing site and it was noted that NIE had undertaken to reinstate the grounds and provide the necessary insurances.

The Client Manager reported that it was expected that the work would take several weeks and that the Council would suffer no loss or incur any costs for the works which would ensure continuity of electricity supply to the surrounding area.

Noted.

Councillor AM Beattie left the meeting at 8.15 pm

T&ESC/2010/250 : EMAIL CORRESPONDENCE FROM A RESIDENT

The Client Manager referred to a telephone call and email correspondence from a resident who advised that she and her partner were keen recyclers, had installed solar panels, used a wood burning stove and had disposed of their own car 10 years ago and now used public transport. She indicated that the disposal of the car meant they could no longer take larger items to the HRC (e.g. washing machine) and she felt they were now penalised by having to pay for a special collection service and she sought Members' views on this matter.

Members considered that, while they supported her efforts to be environmentally friendly, they did not feel that the Council could make an exception for her and waive

the collection charges simply on the basis that she had not got a car. After discussion it was

RESOLVED:

- (a) that the Council advise that, while it applauded efforts to be environmentally friendly, it would not make an exception and waive collection charge in this instance
- (b) that, in recognition of the resident's efforts, the Council should offer her two bags of Rosey Lea compost.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS – CLIENT SERVICES

T&ESC/2010/251 : GLENCREGAGH RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

The Client Manager referred to the request for playground facilities by Glencregagh Residents Association and advised that the Association has asked for a meeting with the Council. He reported that this would be held at 2.00 pm on 10 June 2010 and suggested that Members for the area might wish to attend. Councillor Duncan suggested that Members meet at 1.30 pm to discuss the issues prior to meeting with the residents' group.

RESOLVED: that Members for the local area meet with Glencregagh Residents' Association on 10 June 2010 at 2.00 pm, with a pre-meeting taking place at 1.30 pm

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

T&ESC/2010/252 : REPORTS AVAILABLE

The Director of Technical & Environmental Services advised that the following information was available for Members' attention.

- The Local Government Staff Commission for Northern Ireland. Corporate Plan – 2010/11 – 2012/2013. Business Plan – 2010/11.
- Northern Ireland Fuel Poverty Advisory Group, Tackling Fuel Poverty: Facing Uncertainty 4th Annual Review 2009.
- Research Bulletin RB10 (January 2010). Published by CL:AIRE (Contaminated Land: Applications in Real Environments)
- Insight. Spring 2010 Issue15. Published by RSPB.
- The spec. March 2010. Newsletter of Criminal Justice Inspection

Noted.

T&ESC/2010/253 : MINUTES OF THE ARC 21 JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 25 MARCH 2010

The Director of Technical & Environmental Services circulated a copy of the ratified minutes of the above meeting. He advised Members of some of the business that had been addressed, which included the following:

- Calls for Conflict of Interest.
- Contracts and Performance Update.
- Supply and Delivery of Wheeled Refuse Containers, 55L Kerbside Boxes, Bottle Banks, Home Compost Units, Kitchen Caddies and Compostable Kitchen Caddy Liners.
- Contingency Funding Support.
- Residual Waste Treatment Project.
- Correspondence in Relation to a Single Waste Authority.
- Consultation of the Legal Definition of Waste and its Application.
- Consultation on the Draft Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Bill (NI).
- Consultation on the Draft Local Government (Indemnities for Members and Officers) Order (NI) 2010.
- CoPE Accreditation Update.
- Arc 21 Audit Committee Meeting No. 8.
- AOB.
- Next Meeting.

The Director of Technical & Environmental Services highlighted the need for Members to peruse the contents of the above-mentioned minutes and to be aware of the waste management issues currently being considered.

Noted.

T&ESC/2010/254 : ARC 21 JOINT COMMITTEE – MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 29 APRIL 2010.

The Director of Technical & Environmental Services reported that, at the stage of writing his report, the minutes of the above meeting had not been ratified. He advised that the Joint Committee had been scheduled to meet on 25 May 2010, when the minutes were due to be ratified. He advised that the minutes would be circulated when available.

Noted.

T&ESC/2010/255 : ARC21 PRESENTATION

The Director of Technical & Environmental Services reported that a presentation had been made by Arc 21 staff to a meeting of the Technical and Environmental Services Committee on 2 September 2008 to which all members of Council had been invited.

He stated that, in view of the on-going progress of the Residual Waste Treatment Project and other waste management issues, and their significant financial implications for the Council, it was important that the Council was aware of current waste management developments. With that background context, he sought the Committee's approval to arrange an Arc 21 presentation for Members' information and awareness as soon as possible, so that Members were kept informed of the current position and the financial implications for the Council.

RESOLVED: that the Council grant approval for an Arc 21 presentation, to which all members of Council would be invited.

T&ESC/2010/256 : ARC21 JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING OF 25 MAY 2010 – MEMBERS' MONTHLY BULLETIN

The Monthly Bulletin for the Joint Committee Meeting of 25 May 2010, which set out the main business to be conducted at the above mentioned meeting, had been previously circulated for Members' information.

Noted.

T&ESC/2010/257 : 2008/2009 BEST VALUE PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

The Director of Technical & Environmental Services referred to Performance Indicator Tables 1 to 7 inclusive setting out the Council's performance relative to those of other Councils in Northern Ireland together with graphs showing trends in council performance (copy previously circulated). He advised that the Council's Business Support Manager had summarised the key issues for the Department as follows:

It was reported that the attached graphs provided information regarding key departmental performance indicators in the four years from 2005/06 to 2008/09 and Members were asked to note that the averaging data was spread over 24 Councils as Ballymoney Borough Council and Derry City Council appeared to have submitted no data.

The graph entitled "Castlereagh Borough Council Performance Indicators 05/06 - 08/09" summarised key waste disposal data. WC/1 the net cost of municipal waste collection per head of population rose in 06/07, stabilised in 07/08 and rose again in 08/09. This appeared to be related to the procurement of vehicles and to the running of older vehicles with higher running costs. The average cost for this service across 24 Councils was £31.07 in 08/09 and the Council's cost at £35.30 was slightly higher. It was reported however that this might not give a complete picture as cost and customer profiles differed across the Councils.

WC/2, the net cost of collection and treatment of recycled/composted household waste per head of population, showed a small increase in cost over the period 05/06 to 07/08. The figure rose significantly, from £14.13 to £20.70 in 08/09, although this could be due both to increasing levels of material being processed and to an increase in the cost of processing green waste. The rise recorded in 08/09 meant that this indicator was higher than the Council average of £15.66 and left the Council 21st in the Council league table.

WD/1, the net cost of municipal waste disposal per head of population indicator, was now only slightly higher than the figure recorded for 05/06, having dipped in 06/07 and 07/08. With a cost of £24.08 for disposal, the Council was significantly lower than the average cost of disposal across Councils, which stood at £33.88. This placed the Council 3rd in the list of 24 Councils.

SC/1, the net cost of street cleansing per head of population, had remained remarkably steady in the four years studied, appearing to have risen less than the cost of inflation over the same time period. It was posited that this was due to gains in efficiency over time. The 08/09 cost of £11.26 was significantly lower than the average across the Councils of £15.63 leaving the Council 6th out of all in this regard.

The graph entitled "Household Waste Recycled & Composted as a Percentage of Arisings 05/06 - 08/09" showed a substantial rise in the amount of material processed from 05/06 to 06/07 and on into 07/08. There was a much smaller rise in the levels of materials processed in 2008/09, but this was thought to relate to the law of diminishing returns coming into operation which stated that less and less extra output will be achieved when additional inputs were added while holding other inputs fixed. In other words, the marginal product of each unit of input would decline as the amount of that input increased holding all other inputs constant (*Ceteris paribus*). It was expected that, with the inclusion of the food waste figures in next year's figures, the figures would rise again before entering a long term decline. The Council's percentage of 38% was slightly above the spread average of 36%, leaving its position in the table at 10th by score.

Turning to the other Indicators, the Council's performance overall remained good and had increased in some areas. For example, the net cost of the Council's services (C/1) remained low at £208.45 per head of population. As the average cost was £263.48, the Council's performance placed it 3rd for best value out of the 24 Councils studied. The percentage of the Council's net expenditure compared with agreed revenue estimates at 105% was only slightly ahead of the average figure of 103% and placed the Council at 7th place in the table of Council performance by score. In addition, the average number of working days lost per employee due to absences remained low (10.61 days) when compared to the average (12.21 days) and placed the Council 7th overall in this regard.

In terms of Building Control PI's, the Building Control Service had exceeded the targets set within the Departmental Management Plan and was performing well in comparison to other Councils. For example, the average percentage of domestic full plan applications receiving 1st assessment within 21 days from receipt at 87% significantly exceeded the Council average of 74%, with the percentage of non - domestic applications at 88% also exceeding the average of 79%. Also, the percentage of resubmissions assessed within 14 days was also high at 86% when compared to the spread average of 79%.

The Environmental Health Service had again achieved 'A' grades across all measurements. This was also achieved by 12 other Councils of the 24 considered.

The Director of Technical & Environmental Services summarised the Council's position within the league table as coming 3rd out of the 24 Councils. He considered the Council's performance across all departments to be very acceptable.

RESOLVED: that the Council note the results of the 2008/2009 Best Value Performance Indicators and thank staff across all departments for their hard work and efforts.

There being no further business, the meeting ended at 7.25 p.m.

CHAIRMAN

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Adopted by the Council this _____ day of

_____ **2009 with the exception of**

Minute Nos. _____

MAYOR