

CASTLEREAGH BOROUGH COUNCIL

Minutes of the proceedings of the Council meeting held in the Council Chamber, Civic & Administrative Offices, Bradford Court, Upper Galwally, Castlereagh, BT8 6RB, on Thursday, 25 November 2010, at 7.10 pm

PRESENT: Councillor V McCoy
(in the Chair)

ALDERMEN: J Beattie
J Norris MBE
G Rice MBE
J White

COUNCILLORS: AM Beattie
J Bunting
M Chambers
M Copeland
D Drysdale
S Duncan
B Hanvey
R Hughes MBE
T Jeffers
S Skillen
J Spratt MLA

IN ATTENDANCE: Acting Chief Executive (Director of Finance), Director of Administration & Community Services, Director of Leisure Services, Director of Technical & Environmental Services, Client Manager, Planning Officer, Planning Service Officer and Members' Services Officer

APOLOGIES:- Apologies were received on behalf of Alderman Henderson MBE and Councillors Cochrane, Hall, Long, Robinson and Tosh

2010/791 : OPENING OF THE MEETING

The Mayor's Chaplain opened the meeting with a prayer and asked that the Late Councillor Walker be included in the Council's thoughts. The Mayor stated that the Council's prayers would be with the Walker family at this difficult time. She added that Councillor Chambers had recently lost her brother and she wished to pass on the Council's condolences in this regard.

Councillor Chambers stated that the past two years had been very traumatic for her as she had first lost her husband then her mother and, most recently, her brother. She thanked Members for their kind words, cards and thoughts. Councillor Chambers also thanked the Officers for all their assistance.

Noted.

2010/792 : DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following Members declared an interest:

Councillor Jeffers in respect of Connswater Greenway
Councillor Duncan in respect of Citizens' Advice Bureau

2010/793 : MINUTES

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the following Minutes be adopted as a true and accurate record of proceedings:

Special Council meeting held on 18 November 2010
Leisure Services Committee meeting held on 4 November 2010

- (b) That the following Minutes be adopted as a true and accurate record of proceedings, subject to the following amendments:

Council meeting held on 28 October 2010

- Minute 2010/729: Delete sentence beginning 'Councillor Harvey expressed his disappointment ...', insert 'Councillor Harvey expressed his disappointment that the Planning Service continued to grant approval for further developments along the Saintfield Road.'
- P6, after second para: Insert 'Councillor Long left the meeting at 7.45 pm.'
- P7, after third para: Insert 'Councillor Long rejoined the meeting at 7.55 pm.'
- Minute 2010/775, resolution: After 'granted executive' insert 'powers'.

Special Council meeting held on 10 November 2010

- P5, third para: Delete 'the Lord Mayor of Belfast', insert 'MP for Belfast East'.

Councillor Copeland joined the meeting at 7.20 pm.

Technical & Environmental Services meeting held on 2 November 2010

- Minute T&ESC/2010/399: Delete 'Alderman White declared an interest as a member of the board of Ballyoran', insert before 'Councillor Spratt declared ...' 'Alderman White and'.

Central Services Committee meeting held on 2 November 2010

- P1, first para: Delete 'Members' Corridor', insert 'Council Chamber'.

Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting held on 4 November 2010

- P14, after second para: Insert 'Councillor Long left the meeting at this point, 8.45 pm'.

(c) That the following Minutes be noted:

Castlereagh Hills Golf Club Board meeting held on 17 September 2010
Leisure Park Board meeting held on 20 September 2010
Leisure Park Board meeting held on 18 October 2010

MATTERS ARISING

2010/794 : LAND & PROPERTY SERVICES RATING LISTS (Minute T&ESC/2010/405 refers)

RESOLVED: That Minute T&ESC/2010/405 be referred back to Committee for consideration of further information that had become available.

2010/795 : MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 23 NOVEMBER 2010

RESOLVED: That consideration of the Minutes of the Special Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting held on 23 November 2010 be deferred to the December 2010 full Council meeting.

Councillor Bunting joined the meeting at 7.33 pm.

PRESENTATION

2010/796 : PRESENTATION BY THE ROADS SERVICE RE: AUTUMN REPORT (copy previously circulated)

The Mayor welcomed Mr Ken Hutton, Divisional Roads Manager, Mr Colin Brown, Network Maintenance, and Mr David Miskelly, Deputy Section Engineer, to the meeting. She advised that Mr Hutton would take Members through his report and then answer written questions that had been forwarded to the Roads Service in advance of the meeting.

Mr Hutton took Members through the report and pointed out the following:

- The inquiry in respect of the A55 Knock Road widening scheme had been completed and it was expected that the report would be available soon
- Work at Lisnabreeny junction was complete
- Approval had been granted for the installation of a bus turning circle on the Ballynahinch Road
- The installation of zebra crossing facilities at the Four Winds Roundabout was due to start
- The erection of electronically operated school signs near Carryduff Primary School had been added to the programme

Mr Hutton then moved on to give answers to questions that had been forwarded to the Roads Service prior to the meeting.

Councillor Jeffers had enquired in respect of the installation of pedestrian crossings at Rocks Road. Mr Hutton advised that pedestrian surveys had been carried out in the past, although there had not been much demand for such a scheme. He added that there was a requirement in the area for car parking facilities along the footway, which would be investigated. Mr Hutton asked whether Councillor Jeffers would agree to meet with representatives from the Roads Service to discuss technical details. Councillor Jeffers agreed.

Councillor Jeffers had also enquired in respect of air quality in the Dundonald area. Mr Hutton stated that the Council's Environmental Health Officers had been in contact with the Traffic Information & Control Centre and a meeting had been arranged to try to identify measures to ease pollution.

Councillor Drysdale had raised a question regarding zebra crossings at the Comber Road. A toucan crossing had been installed at the Grahams Bridge Road and Old Dundonald Road following demands from pedestrians to cross from one part of the Comber Greenway to Grahams Bridge Road. The Roads Service was considering the addition of some yellow boxes.

Councillor Drysdale had also enquired about maintenance to be carried out at the roundabout at the Ice Bowl. The Roads Service had agreed to investigate. There was some concerns regarding white road markings in the area and it was hoped to make improvements soon.

Councillor Spratt had raised a question in respect of grit boxes and salt piles on the Rocky Road. Mr Hutton advised that the Rocky Road did not qualify as a primary route, although in prolonged cold weather the road was included for gritting. The Roads Service had checked salt piles and grit boxes in the area and found them adequate.

In response to Alderman Beattie's question regarding drainage on the Monlough Road, Mr Hutton stated that the Roads Service had carried out some improvements, although some further work was required.

Following Mr Hutton's replies to Members' questions, Councillor Spratt stated that the Rocky Road should be considered more seriously, particularly because of its gradient, which was possibly one of the steepest leading up to the carriageway. He pointed out that there had been a series of accidents throughout the years. Furthermore, children from the nearby Lagan College used the road. Councillor Spratt acknowledged that the Rocky Road was not considered a primary route for gritting, but he felt that it should be gritted occasionally, particularly during school term times.

Councillor Spratt also raised concerns in respect of subsidence on the Gransha Road, which had nearly resulted in a tragic accident. He felt that the Roads Service had been negligent as the subsidence had been there for some time and was only addressed once the issue had been raised. However, the subsidence was getting worse been on the Saintfield Road between Dundonald and Carryduff, which was a very busy road. He asked for some indication when this would be rectified.

The Director of Leisure Services left the meeting at 7.47 pm.

Mr Hutton stated that the Roads Service was aware of the subsidence of the Gransha Road. The internal consultants had been investigating the issue. However, to date no solution had been identified. These repairs would also be subject to financial provision being available.

Councillor Spratt left the meeting at 7.50 pm.

Councillor Copeland also referred to gritting of the Rocky Road. He stated that he appreciated the service provided by the Section Office, however, he felt that plans should be transferred from the Lisburn Office to Castlereagh. Mr Hutton replied the Minister for Regional Development had decided that Section Offices should be amalgamated and it was hoped that this would be completed by 31 March 2011.

Councillor Spratt rejoined the meeting at 7.51 pm.

Alderman Rice referred to the Moneyreagh roundabout. She felt this was a dangerous junction and she was disappointed that, although there was so much development in the area, the developer had not been requested to contribute to the improvement of the infrastructure in some way.

Alderman Rice also noted her disappointment that the park 'n ride system at Cairnshill had started off poorly and was currently only at half capacity. She felt that, rather than improving, it had worsened traffic issues in the area. Alderman Rice then went on to thank the Roads Service for installing zebra crossings at the Four Winds roundabout.

Mr Hutton replied that consultations with the developer in Moneyreagh were ongoing and it was hoped to reach agreement in respect of a contribution towards improvement of the infrastructure in the near future.

In respect of the park 'n ride system, Mr Hutton agreed that it had got off to a slow start. However, daily usage figures were being monitored and they showed a positive trend. Additional bus lanes were causing some difficulties for car users, but it was hoped this would improve once target figures had been reached.

Alderman Rice then stated that she had been lobbying for the erection of traffic lights at Brackenvale Garage for a long time. She recalled that the owners of Brackenvale Garage had, at some point, agreed to contribute towards the cost. Alderman Rice raised concerns that the lack of traffic calming measures might cause an accident.

Councillor Hanvey hoped the park 'n ride system would be a success, but he raised concerns about the traffic congestion it was creating. He requested that the Roads Service provide usage figures not percentages. Councillor Hanvey also referred to previous plans to construct a right-hand turn at Saintfield Road Presbyterian Church. He felt that it might alleviate some of the traffic congestion in the mornings.

Councillor Hanvey also enquired about the frequency of gritting secondary roads in Carryduff.

Councillor Hanvey then expressed delight at the decision to erect signs at Carryduff Primary School. He went on to remind Mr Hutton that a request had been made in the past for pedestrian crossings at St Ita's Primary School at Alderwood Hill and Purdysburn Road. He enquired whether any further consideration had been given to this request. Councillor Hanvey asked for responses to be given in writing.

Councillor Chambers commented that, when the park 'n ride system was set up, no consideration had been given to existing traffic, particularly traffic joining the Saintfield Road from side roads.

Alderman White reiterated issues he had raised before, ie flooding at the Carrowreagh Road, Newtownards Road and Dunleady. He felt that this issue needed to be addressed and a permanent solution found. Furthermore, Alderman White stated that he had received complaints, mainly from elderly residents, about the Mission Hall bus service, which was not running anymore. He asked whether the Roads Service could meet with Translink to find a solution.

Alderman White then stated that he had received complaints in respect of speeding cars at the roundabout at the Ice Bowl, particularly travelling towards the Comber Road and the Eastlink Road. Alderman White asked for responses to be given in writing.

Councillor Hanvey left the meeting at 8.15 pm.

Councillor Beattie enquired whether the planned amalgamation of Section Offices would result in staff redundancies. Mr Hutton replied that criteria had been set up to assess the level of service and to ensure that the same level of service could be retained. He added that Officers were examining the existing structure and he thought that restructuring would achieve efficiencies without redundancies but by not filling current vacancies.

Councillor Hanvey rejoined the meeting at 8.16 pm.

Councillor Skillen raised several matters and asked for responses to be given in writing. She stated that pathways in Tullycarnet were in a bad state of repair, ie uneven flagstones and potholes. She further stated that traffic was quite dangerous for children going to school in Coronation Park, therefore she asked whether consideration could be given to the erection of traffic lights. Councillor Skillen went on to say that there had been flooding at the Tullycarnet shops and she had not received a satisfactory response from the Roads Service.

Councillor Skillen also sought approval from the Roads Service to paint the subway in Tullycarnet. Some pensioners had also fallen in the subway due to slippery surfaces.

Councillor Skillen also pointed out that the street lighting in Brooklands Avenue was in need of repair. Mr Hutton replied that, due to legal reasons, there had been issues in respect of the street lighting maintenance contract. However, the Roads Service had entered into a new contract now and he hoped that the level of service would be up to date again soon.

Councillor Skillen also referred to previous discussion regarding the road along McDonald's in Dundonald. Members had asked that double yellow lines be installed along the road to prevent cars from parking in the area. Councillor Skillen asked that the Roads Service give this consideration, as the installation of double yellow lines could prevent serious accidents.

Alderman Rice and Councillors Drysdale and Skillen left the meeting at 8.27 pm.

Councillor Bunting enquired whether the Roads Service had given any consideration to parking issues at rugby matches. Mr Hutton replied that he was aware of consultations between the Traffic Section and rugby authorities. He stated that he would investigate and report back.

Noted.

The Client Manager arrived at the meeting at 8.28 pm.

PLANNING

Councillor Beattie took the chair for the Planning part of the meeting.

Alderman Rice rejoined the meeting at 8.29 pm.

2010/797 : NEW PLANNING SERVICE OFFICER

The Chairman welcomed Mr Dermot O'Kane, the new Planning Service Officer, to the meeting. Alderman Rice and Councillors Spratt, Copeland and Hanvey also welcomed Mr O'Kane on behalf of their respective parties.

Noted.

Alderman White rejoined the meeting at 8.31 pm.

**SCHEDULE OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS DATED 25 NOVEMBER 2010
(copy previously circulated)**

**2010/798 : PLANNING APPLICATION Y/2009/0466/F – SITE TO REAR OF 19
BREDA PARK, BELFAST, BT8 6JR – ERECTION OF DWELLING HOUSE
AND ASSOCIATED CAR PARKING**

Councillor Duncan requested that an Office Meeting be held in respect of the above application. Councillor Hanvey agreed and stated that, in light of the previous planning appeal and history of the application, this would give Members the opportunity to raise any issues with the developer. Councillor Chambers was disappointed that the application was being considered for approval as the development would face towards Breda Crescent, a small narrow road. She questioned that it could be justified.

RESOLVED: That consideration of Planning Application Y/2009/0466/F be deferred to enable an Office Meeting to be convened in liaison with the Chairman and Councillor Duncan.

Councillor Drysdale rejoined the meeting at 8.38 pm.

**2010/799 : PLANNING APPLICATION Y/2010/0215/O – 84 MANSE ROAD,
CLONTONAKELLY, CARRYDUFF, BT8 8AF – SITE FOR DEMOLITION OF
TWO NO DWELLINGS AND ERECTION OF SINGLE DWELLING**

Alderman Rice stated that she had been contacted by the applicant. She had also obtained photos, which she wished to pass on to the Planning Service as, in her view, they appeared to demonstrate that the development had not been inspected by Officers from the Planning Service. She went on to say that it was her understanding that one building had been demolished and replaced.

The Planning Service Officer replied that all applications were inspected by Case Officers and photos were often taken and provided at group discussions.

Alderman Rice commented that she was dissatisfied. She raised concerns that some refusals, particularly in rural areas, were unjustified as development was needed for business. Particularly in light of approvals granted in areas such as

the Saintfield Road, which caused increased traffic congestion, she requested an explanation.

Councillor Spratt stated that, on behalf of the DUP, he wished to disassociate himself from the comments made by Alderman Rice in respect of non-inspection of the above application. Councillor Drysdale stated that the UUP would also disassociate itself from those comments.

Noted.

2010/800 : PLANNING APPLICATION Y/2010/0381/F – 69A NEWTON PARK, BELFAST, BT8 6GQ – PROPOSED SINGLE-STOREY EXTENSION TO EXISTING RETAIL UNIT

On behalf of Councillor Hall, Councillor Drysdale asked for a deferral of the above application in order to give the applicant time to submit some further information.

Councillor Spratt left the meeting at 8.45 pm.

Following some discussion, it was

RESOLVED: That consideration of Planning Application Y/2010/0381/F be deferred for two weeks to allow time for the applicant to submit additional information relating to the application.

2010/801 : PLANNING APPLICATION Y/2010/0427/A – 33 SAINTFIELD ROAD, BELFAST, BT8 6AF – PRISMATIC SIGN

On behalf of Alderman Henderson, Councillor Drysdale asked for a deferral of the above application in order to give the applicant time to submit amendments.

Following some discussion, it was

RESOLVED: That consideration of Planning Application Y/2010/0427/A be deferred for two weeks in order to give the applicant time to submit amendments to the application.

Alderman Rice and Councillor Copeland left the meeting at 8.48 pm.

2010/802 : PLANNING APPLICATION Y/2008/0355/F – LANDS AT OLD DUNDONALD ROAD, BELFAST, OPPOSITE DAVID LLOYD LEISURE

CENTRE – AMENDMENTS TO PREVIOUS PLANNING APPROVAL REF Y/2006/0635 FOR MATERIAL CHANGE OF USE FOR FIRST-FLOOR ACCOMMODATION OF UNIT 6 FROM ASSOCIATED TRAINING FACILITIES TO OFFICE

Alderman White felt that the Council should insist on the use of the existing name of the facility, ie Eastpoint Entertainment Ltd. He felt that the new name could be confusing. The Planning Service Officer replied that, as the appeal of the application had been dismissed, it would be the responsibility of the applicant to provide identification of the address.

Noted.

Councillor Skillen rejoined the meeting at 8.52 pm.

**PLANNING CORRESPONDENCE
(copy previously circulated)**

2010/803 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE PLANNING SERVICE, DATED 10 NOVEMBER 2010, RE: EPIC SYSTEM

The Planning Officer advised that the Planning Service had offered to give a presentation in respect of the ePIC system.

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED: That the Planning Officer make arrangements for a presentation to be given by representatives from the Planning Service in respect of the ePIC system.

2010/804 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE PLANNING SERVICE, DATED 10 NOVEMBER 2010, RE: PLANNING APPLICATION Y/2008/0461/F – RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT OF EIGHT NO ‘ECO’ APARTMENTS AND ONE NO ‘ECO’ TOWNHOUSE (TO INCLUDE DEMOLITION OF NUMBERS 31-33 NEWTOWNBREDA ROAD AND STORAGE SHEDS)

The Planning Officer advised that the Planning Service had decided not to give any further consideration to the above application as it did not meet the criteria outlined in the most recent ‘Guidance for Councils on the Operation of the Management Board Referral Procedure’.

Councillor McCoy rejoined the meeting at 8.55 pm.

During the ensuing discussion, Councillor Duncan noted disappointment as she felt that the development would lead to the destruction of the oldest part of Newtownbreda.

Councillor Spratt left the meeting at 8.56 pm.

Councillor Spratt agreed that no more buildings should be demolished in the area as there were unique buildings and much history. He continued to say that he had spoken to the Minister who had agreed to visit the area.

Councillor Chambers stated that she, together with Aldermen Beattie and Rice, had campaigned for years in order to try and persuade the Department for the Environment to place a protection order on the village, which had eventually been granted. However, she stated that she was disillusioned with the Department, as she felt that Newtownbreda had been decimated.

Councillor Drysdale left the meeting at 8.59 pm.

Alderman Beattie commented that he was under the impression that an assurance had been given to keep the character of the village. He felt that by demolishing buildings, history would be wiped out.

Councillors Copeland and Spratt and the Acting Chief Executive rejoined the meeting at 9.00 pm.

Noted.

2010/805 : WEEKLY PLANNING APPLICATIONS FOR THE PERIOD 19 OCTOBER 2010 TO 15 NOVEMBER 2010 (copy previously circulated)

Noted.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS - PLANNING

2010/806 : THANK YOU

The Planning Officer advised that she had received a thank you card from a resident regarding assistance given with his planning application.

Noted.

2010/807 : COUNCILLOR WALKER

Councillor Bunting advised that she had received a telephone call from a resident who had expressed his condolences and personal sorrow at Councillor Walker's passing, as Councillor Walker had been very helpful in the past.

Noted.

Alderman Rice and Councillor Drysdale left the meeting at 9.06 pm.

2010/808 : DEVELOPMENT ON CARROWREAGH ROAD

Alderman White raised concerns in respect of flooding in a new development on the Carrowreagh Road. He asked whether it would be possible to obtain correspondence from NI Water regarding drainage on this site. The Planning Service Officer replied that this drainage had already been approved and concerns had been addressed. He offered to forward correspondence from NI Water relating to this.

The Planning Officer reminded Members that representatives from NI Water and the Rivers Agency had been invited to attend a meeting and she hoped that these issues could be addressed then.

Noted.

Councillor Duncan and the Director of Leisure Services rejoined the meeting at 9.09 pm.

Councillors Beattie and Jeffers left the meeting at 9.09 pm.

ROADS
(copy previously circulated)

2010/809 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE ROADS SERVICE, DATED 4 NOVEMBER 2010, RE: THE LOWER BRANIEL ROAD, CASTLEREAGH (ABANDONMENT) ORDER (NORTHERN IRELAND) 2010 (S R 2010 NO 364)

Noted.

2010/810 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE ROADS SERVICE, DATED 29 OCTOBER 2010, RE: A55 KNOCK ROAD WIDENING SCHEME – PUBLIC INQUIRY

Noted.

2010/811 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE ROADS SERVICE, DATED 11 NOVEMBER 2010, RE: ROADS (NI) ORDER 1993 – ABANDONMENT OF PUBLIC RIGHTS-OF-WAY – THE LOWER BRANIEL ROAD, CASTLEREAGH (ABANDONMENT) ORDER (NI) 2010

Noted.

EDUCATION
(copy previously circulated)

2010/812 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE SOUTH EASTERN EDUCATION & LIBRARY BOARD, DATED 25 OCTOBER 2010, RE: DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL 218 – DUNDONALD PRIMARY SCHOOL

Noted.

2010/813 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE NORTHERN IRELAND ASSEMBLY, DATED 8 NOVEMBER 2010, RE: EDUCATIONAL UNDER-ACHIEVEMENT AND THE PROTESTANT WORKING CLASS

Noted.

2010/814 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, DATED 9 NOVEMBER 2010, RE: COMMISSIONERS ON THE SEELB

Noted.

2010/815 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM NAOMI LONG MLA, DATED 15 NOVEMBER 2010, RE: ELECTED REPRESENTATION ON SEELB

Noted.

2010/816 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM MARGARET RITCHIE MP, DATED 7 OCTOBER 2010, RE: LACK OF REPRESENTATION WITH RESPECT TO THE SEELB

Noted.

2010/817 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM ARDS BOROUGH COUNCIL, DATED 5 NOVEMBER 2010, RE: LACK OF REPRESENTATION WITH RESPECT TO SEELB

Noted.

2010/818 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM LISBURN CITY COUNCIL, DATED 27 OCTOBER 2010, RE: LACK OF REPRESENTATION WITH RESPECT TO THE EDUCATION & LIBRARY BOARD

Noted.

2010/819 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE NORTHERN IRELAND ASSEMBLY, DATED 11 NOVEMBER 2010, RE: LACK OF REPRESENTATION WITH RESPECT TO THE SEELB

Noted.

HOUSING
(copy previously circulated)

2010/820 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE NORTHERN IRELAND HOUSING COUNCIL, DATED 3 NOVEMBER 2010, RE: NORTHERN IRELAND HOUSING COUNCIL SUMMARY REPORT – MAY TO SEPTEMBER 2010

Noted.

2010/821 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE NORTHERN IRELAND HOUSING EXECUTIVE, DATED NOVEMBER 2010, RE: REVIEW OF CORPORATE AND BUSINESS PLANS AND OBJECTIVES

Alderman White offered to pass on any comments relating to the above correspondence.

Councillor Copeland suggested that, as Mr McIntyre, the NIHE Chief Executive, was due to retire at the end of the month, it would be prudent to thank him for all his assistance throughout the years and wish him well for the future.

RESOLVED: That the Council write to thank Mr McIntyre, the NIHE Chief Executive, for all his assistance throughout the years and offer best wishes for the future.

FINANCE

2010/822 : ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

RESOLVED : That the Council approve the under noted payments:

General Accounts (Suppliers)	£572,619.37
General Accounts (Emergency Payments)	£108,658.30
Subsidiary Account (Wages & Salaries)	£822,792.33

LEGAL

**REPORT FROM THE CLIENT MANAGER
(copy previously circulated)**

2010/823 : CONNSWATER COMMUNITY GREENWAY – CREGAGH GLEN

The Client Manager reiterated the Council's previous agreement to transfer lands at Cregagh Glen to Belfast City Council to facilitate the Lottery requirements and construction of Connswater Community Greenway. However, the Council's Solicitor had drawn attention to an anomaly regarding boundaries recorded at the Land Registry. This anomaly was in the process of being resolved but it was anticipated that this would take some time.

The contract for the construction of the Greenway had been awarded, and the work at Cregagh Glen was included in the early stages of the programme. Belfast City Council had, therefore, asked that the Council allow the contractor to start work on the Glen on 1 December 2010 under licence. The licence would indemnify the Council against damage or loss caused by the contractor and would be drawn up by Belfast City Council's Solicitor.

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED: That approval be granted for the Mayor and the Acting Chief Executive to sign the licence allowing the Connswater Community Greenway contractor access to the site from 1 December 2010, subject to the licence being reviewed and deemed satisfactory by the Council's Solicitor.

2010/824 : CONNSWATER COMMUNITY GREENWAY – LANDS AT LADAS DRIVE

Following the Council's approval to sell a small portion of land at Ladas Drive to Belfast City Council to facilitate the construction of the Connswater Community Greenway, the Client Manager advised that the Land & Property Services had agreed a valuation with a restrictive clause limiting use to amenity land in association with the Connswater Community Greenway.

In Minute T&ESC/2010/435 it was resolved that 'the Council sell the land to Belfast City Council in accordance with the valuation from Land & Property Services so long as the sale does not raise issues which fall within the ambit of points raised in the case between the Ombudsman and Armagh Council'. The Case Officer in the Ombudsman's Office had stated that discussions could not be entered into relating to an ongoing case, but the Officer stated that the Armagh case was different in that it involved a third-party commercial organisation providing a function for which the Council had no responsibility. Belfast City Council had stated that they wished to purchase the land from the Council for the Connswater Community Greenway, thus fulfilling the Council function (recreation and access to the countryside).

The Council's Solicitor did not anticipate any fundamental difficulties in proceeding with the sale of the land. He had, however, asked for more details of the Armagh sale, which the Council would be unable to provide.

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED: That approval be granted for the preparation of the transfer of title documents under the terms of the Land & Property Services valuation and that the documents be brought back to Council for approval before signing.

**2010/825 : MAYOR / DEPUTY MAYOR'S BUSINESS FOR NOVEMBER 2010
(copy previously circulated)**

Noted.

**REPORTS FROM OFFICERS
(copy previously circulated)**

**2010/826 : REPORT FROM THE DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION &
COMMUNITY SERVICES RE: BETTING, GAMING, LOTTERIES &
AMUSEMENT (NI) ORDER 1985**

The Director of Administration & Community Services advised that the following applications had been received for registration as Societies for the purposes of conducting public lotteries:

- Gilnahirk Primary School – Parent-Teacher Association, represented by Ms Michele Stanex, 9 Gilnahirk Rise, Belfast, BT5 7DT
- MS Society for Northern Ireland, represented by Mr T Mallon, MS Society

The Director of Administration & Community Services stated that she had not yet received a reply from the PSNI but, subject to no objections being raised by

them, she recommended that the Council agree to the registration of the above applicants as Societies under Article 136 of the Betting, Gaming, Lotteries & Amusements (NI) Order 1985, having complied with the provisions of the above legislation.

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED: That approval be granted for the registration as Societies for Gilnahirk Primary School Parent-Teacher Association and the MS Society for Northern Ireland, having complied with the provisions of the Betting, Gaming, Lotteries & Amusements (NI) Order 1985 and subject to no objections being received from the PSNI.

2010/827 : REPORT FROM THE CAPITAL PROJECTS OFFICER RE: SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF A NEW 3G SEVEN-A-SIDE FOOTBALL PITCH AT CREGAGH COMMUNITY CENTRE AND DISPOSAL OF THE EXISTING SYSTEM

The Director of Administration & Community Services advised that tenders had been advertised in the Belfast Telegraph on 27 September 2010 and on the Council's website for the supply and installation of a new 3G seven-a-side football pitch at Cregagh Community Centre and disposal of the existing system. Eight tenders had been submitted by 15 October 2010.

All tenders had been found arithmetically correct and they were assessed in accordance with the agreed tender evaluation criteria. Clive Richardson Ltd had scored the highest, with Curran Contracts being second. The Director of Administration & Community Services therefore sought approval to award the tender to Clive Richardson Ltd. In the event that Clive Richardson Ltd would withdraw, she sought approval to appoint Curran Contracts.

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED:

- (a) That approval be granted to appoint Clive Richardson Ltd for the supply and installation of a new 3G seven-a-side football pitch at Cregagh Community Centre and the disposal of the existing system, having scored highest in the agreed tender evaluation criteria.
- (b) That approval be granted to appoint Curran Contracts should Clive Richardson Ltd withdraw from the appointment.

GENERAL

2010/828 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM NI WATER, DATED 10 NOVEMBER 2010, RE: BUILDING OVER OR NEAR TO PUBLIC SEWERS (copy previously circulated)

Noted.

2010/829 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE DEPARTMENT FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT, DATED 9 NOVEMBER 2010, RE: CONCERNS IN RESPECT OF NI WATER (copy previously circulated)

Noted.

2010/830 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT, DATED 10 NOVEMBER 2010, RE: COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT (copy previously circulated)

Noted.

2010/831 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM NEWRY & MOURNE DISTRICT COUNCIL, DATED 12 NOVEMBER 2010, RE: NAMING OF RAYMOND MCCREESH PARK (copy previously circulated)

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED: That approval be granted for the completion and return of the response form provided by Newry & Mourne District Council.

Councillor Jeffers rejoined the meeting at 9.15 pm.

2010/832 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE PSNI, DATED 27 OCTOBER 2010, RE: CLOSURE OF CARRYDUFF PSNI STATION (copy previously circulated)

Councillor Spratt expressed concern that the closure of Carryduff Police Station had been approved by the Policing Board and that the DPP had been satisfied. The Council had placed on record Members' views regarding alternative provision. Councillor Spratt proposed that the Council write to the District Commander, restating the Council's position, ie that promises had been made and then ignored. He further suggested that a copy be sent to the Chief Constable and the Policing Board.

Councillor Hanvey stated that, as Chair of the DPP, he could assure Members that the DPP had addressed the issues highlighted. There had been a difference of opinion amongst DPP members, but emphasis had been given to the

commitment to provide an alternative mechanism to ensure an adequate service in this regard. A report had been passed on to the Policing Board.

Councillor Bunting recalled that the Acting Chief Executive had consulted with the Council's DPP Manager. It had been decided to respond together to the Policing Board.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the Council write to the District Commander, restating the Council's position in respect of the closure of Carryduff Police Station and that promises to provide alternative provision had been ignored.
- (b) That a copy of the letter be sent to the Chief Constable and the Policing Board.

2010/833 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE PSNI, DATED 27 OCTOBER 2010, RE: PRESENTATION IN RESPECT OF 'DISCRETION' (copy previously circulated)

The Acting Chief Executive recalled the Council's preference to give the presentation in respect of 'Discretion', a project being implemented in the Police Service as part of the Speedy Justice Programme, at a Special Council meeting. However, the PSNI had now indicated that, as the project had moved on from an organisational perspective, they had decided to arrange a presentation at Bangor Police Station on 8 December 2010, at 12.00 noon, and two representatives of Council were invited to attend.

During the ensuing discussion, Councillor Spratt stated that it was disgraceful that the PSNI had reneged on their agreement to give a presentation at Council. He also urged caution, as there were wider consequences to this issue.

Councillor Spratt then referred to a meeting with Officers and the PSNI, when policing at Remembrance Sunday and the Council's Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony had been agreed. However, the Director of Administration & Community Services had informed him that there had been no police presence at the Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony, resulting in the Mayor being left without the promised outrider service. When he questioned this with the PSNI, Councillor Spratt had been told that they had 'forgotten' to provide service.

Regarding police presence during the Remembrance Sunday service, the PSNI had provided two policemen on motorbike and one policeman on pushbike. Councillor Spratt felt this was disgraceful on such a solemn occasion, particularly as the First Minister had been present.

Councillor Spratt further stated that policing in Castlereagh appeared to be badly neglected. Constituents from Belvoir had complained that there was no police

presence in the area. He proposed to write to the PSNI District Commander, outlining the Council's views in respect of the abovementioned issues, with a copy being sent to the Chair of the Policing Board. Members concurred with this matter, saying that it was disgraceful how the First Citizen of the Borough had been neglected.

Alderman Rice agreed with Councillor Spratt's comments and seconded his proposal.

Councillor Hanvey felt there was an urgent need to meet with the PSNI District Commander. He agreed that a letter should be sent and he felt that a cross-party delegation should meet with the PSNI District Commander to reinforce the Council's position.

Councillor Beattie rejoined the meeting at 9.28 pm.

Councillor Chambers stated that she also had received complaints from residents regarding poor policing in the area. Councillor Bunting stated that, particularly at night, it was imperative that there was police presence, as most crime happened at night. She agreed that it was important for the Council to express dissatisfaction with the service provided by the PSNI.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the Council write to the PSNI District Commander, outlining the Council's dissatisfaction with policing provided in the Castlereagh area, with a copy being sent to the Policing Board.
- (b) That a meeting be requested between the PSNI District Commander and a cross-party delegation of Council to discuss the lack of policing of the Castlereagh area.

Alderman Rice and Councillor Hughes left the meeting at 9.35 pm.

2010/834 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM FARRANS (CONSTRUCTION) LTD, DATED 9 NOVEMBER 2010, RE: WATER MAIN LAYING AND REFURBISHMENT (copy previously circulated)

Noted.

2010/835 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM SUSTRANS, DATED 3 NOVEMBER 2010, RE: PROPOSED MANDATORY CYCLE HELMET LAW FOR NORTHERN IRELAND (copy previously circulated)

RESOLVED: That the Council support the objections raised by Sustrans in respect of the proposed mandatory Cycle Helmet Law for Northern Ireland.

2010/836 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM CONSUMER FOCUS POST, DATED 3 NOVEMBER 2010, RE: COMMITTEE STAGE BRIEFING ON POSTAL SERVICE BILL (copy previously circulated)

Noted.

2010/837 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM ARDS BOROUGH COUNCIL, DATED 12 NOVEMBER 2010, RE: WORK-RELATED CHALLENGES FACING THE CITIZENS' ADVICE BUREAU (copy previously circulated)

RESOLVED: That the Council write to the Minister for Social Development in support of the request from Ards Borough Council for a review and increase of financial support to the Citizens' Advice Bureau.

2010/838 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM SAVE THE CHILDREN, DATED NOVEMBER 2010, RE: MAKING IT HAPPEN: ENDING CHILD POVERTY BY 2010 – CONFERENCE REPORT (copy previously circulated)

Noted.

2010/839 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM WAR MEMORIALS TRUST, DATED 5 NOVEMBER 2010, RE: WAR MEMORIALS OFFICER (copy previously circulated)

Noted.

2010/840 : CONSULTATION DOCUMENT FROM THE DEPARTMENT FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT, DATED NOVEMBER 2010, RE: REVIEW OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR DOMESTIC PROPERTIES NOT SERVED BY A WATER MAIN

Noted.

2010/841 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE & PERSONNEL, RECEIVED ON 5 NOVEMBER 2010, RE: CONSULTATION ON THE ROAD TRAFFIC (FINANCIAL PENALTY DEPOSIT INTEREST) ORDER (NORTHERN IRELAND) (copy previously circulated)

Noted.

2010/842 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM NILGA, DATED 3 NOVEMBER 2010, RE: LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND 2012 – REQUEST FOR COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES (copy previously circulated)

RESOLVED:

- (a) That Councillor Skillen be appointed to represent Elected Members on the Local Government 2012 Olympic Committee.
- (b) That Officers elect a representative on the Local Government 2012 Olympic Committee.

2010/843 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM NILGA, DATED 26 OCTOBER 2010, RE: PUBLIC SECTOR ENERGY CAMPAIGN (copy previously circulated)

Noted.

2010/844 : EMAIL FROM NILGA, DATED 15 NOVEMBER 2010, RE: ANNUAL CONFERENCE, 10-11 FEBRUARY 2011 (copy previously circulated)

Councillor Spratt anticipated that the Council's NILGA representatives would wish to attend the Annual Conference. However, he urged Members not to book overnight accommodation in La Mon Hotel, as this would be deemed unnecessary.

RESOLVED: That approval be granted for the Council's NILGA representatives to attend the Annual Conference on 10-11 February 2011, in La Mon Hotel, Belfast.

2010/845 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE CONSUMER COUNCIL, DATED 29 OCTOBER 2010, RE: CONSUMER 2010 – A SUMMARY OF RESEARCH CARRIED OUT BY THE CONSUMER COUNCIL (copy previously circulated)

Noted.

2010/846 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE BBC AUDIENCE COUNCIL NORTHERN IRELAND, DATED 29 OCTOBER 2010, RE: BBC TRUST REVIEW OF BBC RADIO ULSTER AND BBC RADIO FOYLE (copy previously circulated)

Noted.

2010/847 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE NORTHERN IRELAND ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE FOR HEALTH, SOCIAL SERVICES & PUBLIC

SAFETY, DATED 21 OCTOBER 2010, RE: COMMITTEE REPORT ON THE SUNBEDS BILL (copy previously circulated)

Noted.

2010/848 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM PHOENIX ENERGY HOLDINGS, DATED 27 OCTOBER 2010, RE: GAS MARKET OPENING – PHOENIX NATURAL GAS LICENCE AREA (copy previously circulated)

Noted.

2010/849 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE LORD CHIEF JUSTICE'S OFFICE, DATED 4 OCTOBER 2010, RE: PRIORITY LIST OF AREAS FOR SENTENCING GUIDELINES (copy previously circulated)

Noted.

Alderman White left the meeting at 9.41 pm.

2010/850 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM SOLACE, RE: JUSTICE BILL – IMPLICATIONS FOR COUNCILS (copy previously circulated)

Councillor Spratt emphasised that there were clear implications in the joining of CSPs and LSPs and he urged caution. It was likely, Councillor Spratt suspected, that Local Government would be asked to cover the cost but would have no part in decision-making. Councillor Spratt felt that the Council should respond to SOLACE and the Department of Justice, stating that Local Government should not be asked to cover the cost of future DPPs as this would not be fair to ratepayers, and that the Policing Board should not be involved in Council finances.

Alderman White rejoined the meeting at 9.43 pm.

RESOLVED: That the Council write to SOLACE and the Department of Justice, making it clear that Local Government should not be asked to finance future DPPs.

Councillor Skillen left the meeting at 9.44 pm.

2010/851 : CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE NORTHERN IRELAND OFFICE, DATED 11 NOVEMBER 2010, RE: POLICE (NORTHERN IRELAND) ACT 2000 – REVIEW OF TEMPORARY RECRUITMENT PROVISIONS (copy previously circulated)

Councillor Spratt stated that he wished to make it clear that the Protestant community would not agree to an extension of 50:50 recruitment to the PSNI, as it was discrimination against one element of the community. He proposed that the Council write to the Northern Ireland Office to make this position clear. Councillor Spratt felt that the PSNI should base recruitment criteria on ability rather than religious background.

Alderman White seconded the proposal as he felt that it had clearly not worked well.

Councillor Hanvey stated that he wished to disassociate himself from the comments made by Councillor Spratt and Alderman White. He added that he firmly believed that 50:50 recruitment should continue in order to attract appropriate representation of both communities.

Councillor Bunting left the meeting at 9.47 pm.

Councillor Spratt pointed out that the reason for the lack of Catholic representation in the RUC had been because of intimidation by their own community of their families and a high risk of being murdered. He felt that the balance was now appropriate as it fulfilled recommendations of 30% Catholic representation set out in the Patton report.

Councillor Drysdale spoke in support of Councillor Spratt's comments. However, he wished to pay tribute to two Catholic RUC Officers, whom he had served with, who had sacrificed much in order to do their job. He agreed that 50:50 recruitment should end, but he pointed out that other minorities had also been discriminated against.

Councillor Copeland commented that the document referred to 50:50 recruitment of Catholics and Others. He resented the fact that he was being classified as Others. Furthermore, he felt that people wanted decent policemen and did not particularly care about their religious background.

Councillor Hanvey wished to put on record that many Catholics had joined the RUC and had suffered because of the terrorist campaigns.

Councillor Duncan asked to place on record that she was not sure whether the Alliance Party should be included in any statements relating to an end of 50:50

recruitment as she was unsure of her Party's formal position in this regard and would have to seek their guidance.

Following some further discussion, Councillor Spratt's proposal was put to the vote, and with eight votes in favour, one against and one abstention, it was

RESOLVED: That the Council write to the Northern Ireland Office, stating that the Council did not support an extension to 50:50 recruitment to the PSNI.

ANNUAL REPORTS
(copy previously circulated)

2010/852 : THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT STAFF COMMISSION FOR NORTHERN IRELAND – STAFF COMMISSION ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS 2009-2010

Noted.

2010/853 : ROADS SERVICE – ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS 2009-2010

Noted.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

2010/854 : ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE – ASSIGNMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES FOR DECEMBER 2010

Councillor Duncan suggested to extend an invitation to the new Chief Executive to attend some meetings before taking up his post in January 2010. The Mayor replied that this had already been done.

RESOLVED: That the Director of Administration & Community Services be assigned the responsibilities of the Acting Chief Executive during December 2010.

2010/855 : REDUCTION OF THE DURATION OF LEISURE SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETINGS TO ONE HOUR

RESOLVED: That approval be granted to reduce the duration of Leisure Services Committee meetings to one hour and that Finance & General Purposes Committee meetings start at 7.00 pm.

2010/856 : DATES OF DECEMBER MEETINGS

RESOLVED: That the schedule of meetings in December 2010 be adjusted as follows:

- Technical & Environmental Services Committee – 2 December 2010, 6.00 pm
- Central Services Committee – 2 December 2010, 7.30 pm
- Leisure Services Committee – 7 December 2010, 6.00 pm
- Finance & General Purposes Committee – 7 December 2010, 7.00 pm
- Council – 16 December 2010, 5.30 pm

2010/857 : LAND & PROPERTY SERVICES – RATES LEAFLET

The Acting Chief Executive tabled a the final version of the Rates Leaflet for Members' information.

RESOLVED: That approval be granted for the Land & Property Services Rates Leaflet.

2010/858 : CHRISTMAS PARTY AT LOUGH MOSS CENTRE

The Acting Chief Executive tabled an invitation from CSAW to a Christmas party at the Lough Moss Centre on 10 December 2010, to be held from 12.00 noon to 3.30 pm.

Noted.

STAFF IN COMMITTEE

There being no further business, the meeting ended at 10.05 p.m.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

MAYOR