

CASTLEREAGH BOROUGH COUNCIL

Minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of Castlereagh Borough Council held in the Council Chamber, Castlereagh Borough Council, Civic & Administrative Offices, Bradford Court, Upper Galwally, Castlereagh, BT8 6RB, on Thursday, 24 November 2011, at 7.05 pm

PRESENT: Councillor J White
(in the Chair)

ALDERMEN: J Beattie MBE
S Duncan
M Henderson MBE
G Rice MBE
G Robinson

COUNCILLORS: A Beattie
M Chambers
M Copeland
D Drysdale
M Gregg
C Hall
B Hanvey
C Howard (from 7.32 pm)
T Jeffers
M Long
V McCoy
T Morrow
T Sandford
J Spratt
D Vitty (from 7.16 pm)
J White

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

APOLOGIES: Councillor O'Reilly

2011/625 (7.07 pm): OPENING OF THE MEETING

In the absence of the Chaplain, Councillor McCoy opened the meeting with a prayer.

Noted.

2011/626 (7.09 pm): DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members and Officers were invited to declare any pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests (including gifts and hospitality) they should have in respect of items on the agenda. Declarations of interest were put forward, as follows:

- Councillor Gregg declared an interest in respect of the presentation from the Roads Service as he was working on a contract with the Roads Service
- Councillor Copeland declared an interest as a member of the Committee for Regional Development and the Committee for Social Development in the Northern Ireland Assembly
- Alderman Robinson declared an interest in respect of any conflict that might arise in respect of the Minutes of the October Council meeting

Noted.

2011/627 (7.10 pm) : MINUTES (copies previously circulated)

Councillor Long stood on a Point of Order following comments from Alderman Robinson that he had been called a liar by Councillor Long during the October Council meeting. Councillor Spratt stated that this was not a Point of Order.

Alderman Robinson reiterated that he had been called a liar and that he had conferred with the Chief Executive on this matter. He continued to say that the Chief Executive had advised him to consult the Council's Standing Orders regarding the role of the Chair at meetings and how allegations of misconduct should be managed. Alderman Robinson asked that the Chairman review the previous Minutes in order to reach a decision.

Alderman Robinson stated that the word 'vendetta' had been used during the discussion recorded in Minute 2011/543. Furthermore, some discussion, which Alderman Robinson had requested to be recorded, had been omitted.

RESOLVED : That

- (a) (7.14 pm) the Minutes of the Council meeting of 27 October 2011 be adopted as a true and accurate record of the meeting, subject to the following amendments:
 - P4, para 3 – Amend accordingly, following a review of the Minute Taker's notes
 - P7, last para – Amend accordingly, following a review of the Minute Taker's notes
- (b) (7.15 pm) the Minutes of the special Council meeting of 17 November 2011 be adopted as a true and accurate record of the meeting
- (c) (7.15 pm) the Minutes of the Technical & Environmental Services Committee meeting of 8 November 2011 be adopted as a true and accurate record of the meeting, subject to the following amendment:

- Record an apology for Alderman Duncan
- (d) (7.15 pm) the Minutes of the Central Services Committee meeting of 8 November 2011 be adopted as a true and accurate record, subject to the following amendment:
- Minute CS/2011/158, Resolution (b) – delete ‘October’, insert ‘December’

MATTERS ARISING

2011/628 (7.15 pm) : NOTICE OF CORRECTION (Minutes of the Central Services Committee meeting of 6 September 2011 refer)

Councillor Spratt advised that he had chaired the September Central Services Committee meeting but this had not been recorded in the above Minutes.

Noted.

Councillor Vitty joined the meeting at 7.16 pm.

2011/629 (7.17 pm) : MINUTES - CONTINUED

- (a) (7.18 pm) the Minutes of the Leisure Services Committee meeting of 10 November 2011 be adopted as a true and accurate record of the meeting
- (b) (7.19 pm) the Minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting of 10 November 2011 be adopted as a true and accurate record of the meeting
- (c) (7.19 pm) the Minutes of the special Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting of 22 November 2011 be adopted as a true and accurate record of the meeting
- (d) (7.19 pm) the Minutes of the Castlereagh Hills Golf Club Board meeting of 16 September 2011 be noted.

PRESENTATION (copy previously circulated)

2011/630 (7.22 pm): PRESENTATION BY REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE ROADS SERVICE RE: EASTERN DIVISION REPORT TO COUNCIL – AUTUMN 2011

The Mayor welcomed Mr John Irvine, Divisional Roads Manager, and Mr Eamonn McMahon, Section Engineer for Castlereagh, to the meeting.

The Mayor then referred to Councillor Gregg’s declaration of interest and reminded him that, if there was a contractual interest, he would be required to leave the meeting. Councillor Gregg replied that there was no conflict of

interest as the contract was with the Roads Service and Translink in respect of an information system.

Councillor Gregg left the meeting at 7.24 pm.

Mr Irvine advised that he was the new Divisional Roads Manager Eastern Division. He continued to say that the report contained useful contact points, which would allow queries to be sent directly to the most suitable person. Alderman Rice commented that she had emailed a query to the Roads Service but had received a standard reply saying that she would receive a reply by 16 December 2011.

Councillor Long left the meeting at 7.26 pm.

Mr Irvine then recalled that, in 2010, 24 November had been the first day of the extreme cold spell and he confirmed that the Roads Service was well prepared for the forthcoming winter, ie salt stocks etc had been increased. He then referred to weed control and conceded that the Road Service's performance had not been satisfactory. He stated that steps had been taken to prevent this from happening again. Officers had met with the contractor and assurances had been obtained that issues would be addressed.

Mr Irvine then referred to the report. He stated that the Roads Service was currently considering the inspector's report in respect of the Knock Road widening and it was planned to publish recommendations in Spring 2012. He also confirmed that the Roads Service was still committed to carrying out the road-widening scheme of the Knock Road, although there were some cost implications that needed to be addressed.

Mr Irvine also advised that the Eastern Division was continuing with its assessment of the trunk and non-strategic rural routes and the intention was to bring a report to the Council in the future.

Councillor Howard joined the meeting at 7.32 pm.

Mr Irvine went on to advise that the maintenance of structures was ongoing, with general inspections, principal inspections and programmes of remedial work being carried out.

Mr Irvine advised that red patches had been applied to the Hillsborough Road as part of the collision scheme and it was hoped that work would be completed by the end of January 2012. At Bells Bridge and Ladas Drive, issues had been identified in respect of pedestrian crossing and it was hoped to begin remedial work in March 2012. Also, it was hoped to have traffic signs at six sites completed by March 2012. Mr Irvine also advised that it was hoped to have traffic calming measures in place at Braniel Crescent / Wincroft Road by the end of March 2012.

Councillor Long rejoined the meeting at 7.35 pm.

Mr Irvine advised that the Roads Service was currently in the process to identify measures in respect of cycling safety. Furthermore, it was hoped to start work on the street lighting scheme in Carryduff.

Mr Irvine stated that the Roads Service was focusing on maintenance of drainage and a budget of £1.3 million had been set aside. Progress had also been made in respect of footway resurfacing. Furthermore, NI Water were carrying out extensive renewal work in the Castlereagh area.

Mr Irvine then referred to issues relating to parking in the Eastlink Road. He advised that consultations were currently taking place in order to deal with this issue.

Mr Irvine then referred to queries raised by Councillor Hanvey by email prior to the meeting. Issues resulting from debris left after hedge cutting at the Saintfield Road near the reservoir as well as the Park n Ride area at the Newtownbreda Road were also being investigated and Mr Irvine assured Members that the contractors had been contacted and debris would be thoroughly removed after hedge cutting in future. In respect of Councillor Hanvey's query in respect of the illuminated 50 mph traffic sign near Brackenvale Service Station, which had been out of order for some time, Mr Irvine confirmed that this had been repaired.

Councillor Spratt congratulated Mr Irvine on his appointment to Divisional Roads Manager. He went on to refer to issues regarding services provided during the winter 2010. He felt there had been some discrepancy between the Department for Regional Development, NILGA and councils and the Minister for Regional Development was now distancing himself by saying that the Divisional Roads Manager was dealing with any issues. He welcomed assurances that grit boxes had been filled etc. Councillor Spratt also stated that the Borough of Castlereagh was taking pride in keeping the area tidy and the removal of weeds was very important.

Alderman Henderson left the meeting at 7.54 pm.

Councillor Spratt then referred to an incident on the Glen Road bridge, where a car had damaged the bridge. He sought assurance that the insurance company would be asked to take responsibility for any costs involved of the repairs etc.

Councillor Spratt left the meeting at 7.56 pm.

Alderman Robinson congratulated Mr Irvine on his appointment as Divisional Roads Manager. He then expressed his delight that the parking restrictions in the Moat area would be installed. Alderman Robinson also referred to issues regarding the playground and car park in the Park Drive / Park Way area, which was used by hospital staff for car parking. Residents were dismayed as this could result in emergency vehicles not being able to drive along the street. Furthermore, Alderman Robinson had received complaints from residents in the Upper Newtownards Road area about the Old Mill

development. Lorries were making it difficult for residents to drive out of the street in the morning, therefore Alderman Robinson asked whether traffic calming measures could be put in place.

Councillors Chambers and Vitty left the meeting at 7.57 pm.

Another issue raised by Alderman Robinson regarded the non-adoption by the Roads Service of a site at Johnson's Park in the Gransha Road, where dwellings had been built but no pavements or street lights had been provided. Soft kerbs had also not been completed in the Kinross Avenue area, where several disabled persons were living. Alderman Robinson further stated that some residents near the Marie Curie Centre at the Kensington Road had complained that trees and bushes on an area owned by the Roads Service had been allowed to grow and were obscuring lights in the Kensington Crescent area.

Alderman Rice left the meeting at 7.58 pm.
Councillor Vitty rejoined the meeting at 7.58 pm.

Mr Irvine stated that he would investigate complaints regarding overgrown trees and bushes in the Kensington Crescent area. He also stated that soft kerbs in the Kinross Avenue area were due to be installed in January 2012. In respect of pavements and street lighting in the Gransha Road area, Mr Irvine also confirmed that he would investigate. He went on to say that there were currently no plans to instal traffic calming measures in the Old Mill area. In respect of car parking issues in the Park Drive / Park Way area, Mr Irvine felt that this was a management issue.

Councillor Jeffers left the meeting at 7.59 pm.

Councillor McCoy thanked the Roads Service for the traffic calming measures that had been installed at Braniel Crescent. She enquired whether this could be extended to Braniel Way. Mr Irvine replied that he would investigate and reply as soon as possible.

Alderman Henderson and Councillor Spratt rejoined the meeting at 8.01 pm.

Councillor Hanvey enquired whether consideration was given to providing right-turn measures at the footbridge on the Saintfield Road. He felt that the bus lane took up most of the road, which left only a single lane for other traffic. Mr Irvine stated that he would investigate but he felt there could be land ownership issues.

Councillor Long left the meeting at 8.06 pm.

Councillor White reiterated issues relating to hedges on the Old Dundonald Road, which were growing over the footpath. Mr Irvine replied that he would also investigate this issue.

Councillor Jeffers rejoined the meeting at 8.07 pm.

Councillor Drysdale also congratulated Mr Irvine on his appointment as Divisional Roads Manager. He then referred to the contract in respect of the provision of bus shelters, which was due to end and a new contract coming into effect in 2015. He enquired whether vandalised bus shelters as well as new ones were also covered in the contract. Councillor Drysdale also asked for an update in respect of flooding issues on the Carrowreagh Road, which was causing problems for traffic.

Councillor Hanvey left the meeting at 8.08 pm.

Mr Irvine stated that he would need to investigate flooding issues on the Carrowreagh Road. He then advised that the current contract regarding bus shelters had been awarded to Adshel for 15 years, which included the provision of free bus shelters for every one containing advertisements. All bus shelters would be maintained until the end of the contract in 2015 and then the Roads Service would deal with the provision of bus shelters. Mr Irvine also confirmed that repairs to vandalised bus shelters were included in the contract.

Councillor Hanvey rejoined the meeting at 8.10 pm.

Councillor Long rejoined the meeting at 8.11 pm.

Alderman Duncan referred to road works on the Hillhall Road. She stated that there were no measures in place to direct traffic, which could result in an accident. Mr Irvine replied that this area was in the Lisburn City Council area but he would investigate.

Councillor Jeffers left the meeting at 8.12 pm.

The Mayor thanked Mr Irvine and Mr McMahon for their presentation.

PLANNING

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

Alderman Henderson and Councillor Howard left the meeting at 8.15 pm.

Councillor Gregg rejoined the meeting at 8.15 pm.

SCHEDULE OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS DATED 24 NOVEMBER 2011 (copy previously circulated)

**2011/631 (8.15 pm): PLANNING APPLICATION Y/2011/0063/F –
ERECTION OF A PAIR OF SEMI-DETACHED DWELLINGS AND
REMOVAL OF EXISTING GARAGE ON LANDS TO THE REAR OF 26
GRAHAMS BRIDGE ROAD, DUNDONALD (AMENDED SITE ADDRESS)**

Councillor Copeland left the meeting at 8.16 pm.

Alderman Henderson and Councillor Long rejoined the meeting at 8.16 pm.

Councillor Long requested an office meeting in respect of the above application, as the Planning Service had already approved the car parking layout. Furthermore, he felt there was no issue of overlooking.

Councillor Howard rejoined the meeting at 8.17 pm.

The Planning Service Officer replied that the proposed development was on a corner site, therefore it would be prominent. In respect of car parking, refusal was not for safety reasons. Furthermore, the application as it had been presented was unacceptable as there were issues regarding overlooking. The Planning Service Officer suggested that amendments could be made.

Noted.

Councillor Drysdale left the meeting at 8.19 pm.

2011/632 (8.19 pm): PLANNING APPLICATION Y/2011/0274/A – ERECTION OF FIXED ADVERTISEMENT HOARDING ON LANDS ADJACENT TO THE ROAD JUNCTION AT SAINTFIELD ROAD AND MEALOUGH ROAD

Alderman Henderson commented that it would be preferable to grant approval for a temporary lease rather than a permanent one for advertisement hoarding to promote the sale of houses.

Councillor Drysdale returned to the meeting at 8.22 pm.

Councillor Spratt felt that consideration should be given to development of sites and the creation of employment. He felt the Council should support this application.

Councillor White left the meeting at 8.23 pm.

The Planning Service Officer stated that there was no distinction between permanent or temporary leases for advertisement hoardings.

Councillor White returned to the meeting at 8.25 pm.

The Planning Service was concerned about the size of hoardings, and in this case the refusal had been consistent with similar refusals in the past.

Councillors Long and McCoy left the meeting at 8.26 pm/
Councillor Copeland returned to the meeting at 8.26 pm.

Councillor Spratt felt there would be merit to arrange an office meeting with the applicant in order to discuss the size of the signage and consider the erection of a smaller one.

RESOLVED (8.30 pm): That an office meeting in respect of Planning Application Y/2011/0274/A be arranged in liaison with the Chairman and Councillor Spratt.

Councillor Morrow declared an interest in respect of being the applicant of Planning Application Y/2011/0265/F.

2011/633 (8.32 pm): WEEKLY PLANNING APPLICATIONS FOR THE PERIOD 18 OCTOBER 2011 TO 14 NOVEMBER 2011 (copy previously circulated)

Noted.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS - PLANNING

2011/634 (8.32 pm): NEW DAY NURSERY FACILITY FOR A MAXIMUM OF 50 CHILDREN AND ASSOCIATED PARKING FOR STAFF AND VISITORS AT 121 COMBER ROAD, DUNDONALD

Alderman Robinson thanked the Planning Service for all their assistance given to the applicant of the above development.

Noted.

2011/635 (8.32 pm): CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE ROADS SERVICE RE: PLANNING APPLICATION Y/2009/0166/F

The Planning Officer tabled correspondence from the Roads Service in respect of the above Planning Application, which had been requested by Members.

Councillor Hanvey referred to the streamlined planning process and enquired whether there had been a change in policy whereby a recent large hotel and leisure facility had been included on the streamlined list. It was Councillor Hanvey's understanding that the streamlined planning process was reserved for straightforward applications relating to extensions etc.

Councillor Spratt echoed Councillor Hanvey's comments. He stated that he had requested that that particular application be removed from the streamlined planning process as it was on the edge of the green belt and could create much controversy in the area.

The Planning Service Officer advised that this application had been included in the streamlined planning process in error and would be removed.

Noted.

At this point, 8.32 pm, the meeting was adjourned.
The meeting resumed at 8.41 pm.

PRESENT: Alderman J Beattie
Alderman S Duncan
Alderman M Henderson
Alderman G Robinson
Councillor M Copeland
Councillor D Drysdale
Councillor M Gregg
Councillor C Hall
Councillor B Hanvey
Councillor C Howard
Councillor V McCoy
Councillor T Morrow
Councillor T Sandford
Councillor J Spratt
Councillor J White

The Mayor returned to the Chair for the remainder of the meeting.

ROADS

2011/636 (8.43 pm): CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE ROADS SERVICE, DATED 27 OCTOBER 2011, RE: 9 ENLER PARK EAST, DUNDONALD – PROPOSED DISABLED PARKING BAY (copy previously circulated)

Noted.

HOUSING

2011/637 (8.43 PM): CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE NORTHERN IRELAND HOUSING EXECUTIVE, DATED 28 OCTOBER 2011, RE: HOUSING RESEARCH BULLETIN (copy previously circulated)

Noted.

FINANCE

2011/638 (8.44 pm): ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

RESOLVED (8.44 pm) : That the Council approve the under noted payments:

General Accounts (Suppliers)	£753,405.92
General Accounts (Emergency Payments)	£60,535.70
Subsidiary Account (Wages & Salaries)	£852,767.58

MAYOR/DEPUTY MAYOR'S BUSINESS

(copy previously circulated)

2011/639 (8.45 pm): MAYOR/DEPUTY MAYOR'S BUSINESS FOR NOVEMBER 2011

Noted.

REPORTS FROM OFFICERS

2011/640 (8.45 pm): REPORT FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE RE: 'CASUAL VACANCY' ON THE COUNCIL (copy previously circulated)

The Chief Executive advised that a casual vacancy had been created on the Council due to the resignation of Councillor Judith Cochrane MLA on 16 November 2011. He stated that, as required under current electoral legislation, the Chief Electoral Officer had been informed and the Council would be advised once the process of filling the casual vacancy had been completed.

Noted.

2011/641 (8.45 pm): REPORT FROM THE DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION & COMMUNITY SERVICES RE: STANDING ORDERS (copy previously circulated)

The Director of Administration & Community Services referred to the Council meeting of 27 October 2011, when it had been proposed by Alderman Henderson and seconded by Councillor Spratt to amend the Council's Standing Orders as follows:

RECORDING OF ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS

An Attendance Clerk shall be present at all Council and Standing Committee meetings and shall record all entries and departures of Elected Members during the course of the meetings. These movements will be recorded in the Minutes of the meetings.

The Director of Administration & Community Services now tabled this proposal for adoption.

It was proposed by Councillor McCoy, seconded by Alderman Henderson and

RESOLVED (8.45 pm): That approval be granted for the adoption of amendments to the Council's Standing Orders as follows:

RECORDING OF ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS

An Attendance Clerk shall be present at all Council and Standing Committee meetings and shall record all entries and departures of Elected Members during the course of the meetings. These movements will be recorded in the Minutes of the meetings.

2011/642 (8.45 pm): REPORT FROM THE DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION & COMMUNITY SERVICES RE: SERVICE CHARGE ENLER COMPLEX – CHRISTMAS TREE (copy previously circulated)

The Director of Administration & Community Services referred to previous discussion at the November meeting of the Central Services Committee regarding financial support for the provision of a Christmas tree at the Enler Complex. It had been agreed that Officers investigate whether the request had been made by a community organisation or from the landlord of the building. Officers had been advised by Landmark East and their agent that the contribution towards a Christmas tree was to form an additional part of the service charges, ie the Council was being asked to contribute 19.28% of the total cost of £2,980. The Director of Administration & Community Services sought approval for payment of an additional service charge of £596 towards the provision of a Christmas tree at the Enler Complex. She confirmed that there was sufficient provision in the relevant budgets.

Following some discussion, it was proposed by Councillor Spratt, seconded by Alderman Henderson and

RESOLVED (8.46 pm): That approval be granted for the payment of an additional service charge of £596 towards the provision of a Christmas tree at the Enler Complex.

CONFERENCES

2011/643 (8.46 pm): NILGA ANNUAL CONFERENCE (MINUTE 2011/578 REFERS) – CLASH WITH FEBRUARY 2012 COUNCIL MEETING

The Chief Executive advised that the date of the NILGA Annual Conference was the same as the February 2012 Council meeting, therefore he sought Members' views whether to reschedule the Council meeting. He also pointed out that the Council would be striking the rates for the new financial year at that time.

During the ensuing discussion, Councillor Spratt proposed to move the Council meeting forward by one week. However, Councillor McCoy pointed out that this would not leave sufficient time for the preparation of the Minutes of the Council's Standing Committee meetings in February.

Councillor Drysdale suggested moving the Council meeting to 21 February 2012.

Following some further discussion, it was

RESOLVED (8.48 pm): That the decision regarding the date of the February 2012 Council meeting be left to the Mayor and the Chief Executive.

2011/644 (8.48 pm) : CORRESPONDENCE FROM AGENDA NI, DATED 14 NOVEMBER 2011, RE: ENVIRONMENT FORUM 2012 'LOOKING TO THE FUTURE OF WASTE, PLANNING AND WATER', 19 JANUARY 2012 (copy previously circulated)

Noted.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS - CONFERENCES

2011/645 (8.48 pm): CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT STAFF COMMISSION FOR NORTHERN IRELAND, DATED 18 NOVEMBER 2012, RE: LOCAL GOVERNMENT PEOPLE AND ORGANISATION DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE 'DEVELOPING A CHANGE CULTURE IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT', 8 AND 9 DECEMBER 2011 (copy tabled at the meeting)

The Chief Executive sought Members' views whether the Human Resources Manager should attend the above conference.

RESOLVED (8.48 pm): That approval be granted for the Human Resources Manager to attend the Local Government People and Organisation Development Conference 'Developing a Change Culture in Local Government', 8 and 9 December 2011, La Mon Hotel, Belfast.

GENERAL

2011/646 (8.48 pm): CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT STAFF COMMISSION FOR NORTHERN IRELAND, DATED 20 OCTOBER 2012, RE: LOCAL GOVERNMENT STAFF COMMISSION FOR NORHTERN IRELAND – CONSULTATION ON DRAFT REVISED EQUALITY SCHEME (copy previously circulated)

Noted.

2011/647 (8.49 pm): EMAIL FROM NILGA, DATED 27 OCTOBER 2011, RE: DEVELOPING A NEW PUBLIC HEALTH STRATEGY FOR NORTHERN IRELAND - NEWSLETTER (copy previously circulated)

Noted.

2011/648 (8.49 pm): CORRESPONDENCE FROM JONES & COMPANY, SOLICITORS, DATED 4 NOVEMBER 2011, RE: APPLICATION FOR

OCCASIONAL LICENCES, 8, 9 AND 17 DECEMBER 2011 – ROSETTA BAR, ROSETTA ROAD, BELFAST (copy previously circulated)

RESOLVED (8.49 pm): That approval be granted for the application for occasional licences, 8, 9 and 11 December 2011 – Rosetta Bar, Rosetta Road, Belfast.

2011/649 (8.49 pm): CORRESPONDENCE FROM READING BOROUGH COUNCIL, DATED 3 NOVEMBER 2011, RE: GURKHA CAMPAIGN FOR PENSION PARITY (copy previously circulated)

RESOLVED (8.49 pm): That the Council write in support of the Gurkha campaign for pension parity.

2011/650 (8.49 pm): CORRESPONDENCE FROM NI ELECTRICITY, DATED 2 NOVEMBER 2011, RE: VISIT TO CONTROL CENTRE IN CRAIGAVON (copy previously circulated)

RESOLVED (8.49 pm): That a visit be arranged to the Control Centre in Craigavon, to take place in 2012.

2011/651 (8.49 pm): CORRESPONDENCE FROM AGE SECTOR PLATFORM, DATED 3 NOVEMBER 2012, RE: NORTHERN IRELAND PENSIONERS PARLIAMENT REPORT (copy previously circulated)

RESOLVED (8.50): That Officers liaise with Age Sector Platform in order to arrange a date for a presentation to Council.

2011/652 (8.50 pm): CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE & PERSONNEL, DATED 9 NOVEMBER 2011, RE: RATING OF COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES: SMALL BUSINESSES, LARGE RETAIL PROPERTIES AND EMPTY SHOPS – PUBLICATION OF CONSULTATION OUTCOMES REPORT (copy previously circulated)

Noted.

2011/653 (8.50 pm): CORRESPONDENCE FROM NI FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE, DATED 26 OCTOBER 2011, RE: DRAFT INTEGRATED RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN 2012-15 – A CONSULTATION DOCUMENT (copy previously circulated)

Noted.

2011/654 (8.50 pm): CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE DEPARTMENT FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT, DATED 8 NOVEMBER 2011, RE: WEEDS, GRASS CUTTING AND HEDGE MAINTENANCE (copy previously circulated)

Noted.

2011/655 (8.51 pm): CORRESPONDENCE FROM AGE NI, DATED 10 NOVEMBER 2011, RE: URGENT WINTER ISSUE FOR OLDER PEOPLE IN YOUR COUNCIL AREA (copy previously circulated)

Noted.

2011/656 (8.51 pm): UPDATE FROM ACCIDENT & EMERGENCY DEPARTMENTS – ISSUE 4 (copy previously circulated)

Noted.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

2011/657 (8.51 pm): DATE OF DECEMBER COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLVED (8.51 pm): That the date of the December full Council meeting be brought forward to 15 December 2011, 4.00 pm, to be preceded by a group photograph at 3.30 pm.

Alderman Henderson left the meeting at 8.52 pm.

2011/658 (8.52 pm): PROCUREMENT

Councillor Spratt referred to the Council's procurement process, whereby Officers were required to obtain quotations for smaller repairs or replacements, which meant that procurement was a lengthy process.

Alderman Duncan left the meeting at 8.53 pm.

He commented that some suppliers were now reluctant to provide quotations to Government bodies. Councillor Spratt sought reassurance that the Council's Procurement Policy included provision for emergencies so that there would be no delays in service provision etc. The Director of Finance confirmed that the Procurement Policy included emergency and practicality provision.

Noted.

Alderman Duncan rejoined the meeting at 8.55 pm.

2011/659 (8.55 pm): LOCK KEEPER'S COTTAGE

Councillor Gregg commented that it had been his understanding that Officers would provide Members with an update in respect of the Lock Keeper's Cottage. The Mayor advised that this matter had been dealt with by the Economic Development Sub-Committee at its recent meeting.

Noted.

Councillor Gregg left the meeting at 8.57 pm.
Councillor Long rejoined the meeting at 8.57 pm.

IN COMMITTEE

There being no further business, the meeting ended at 9.15 pm.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

MAYOR