

CASTLEREAGH BOROUGH COUNCIL

Minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Central Services Committee held, in committee, in the Council Chamber, Civic & Administrative Offices, Bradford Court, Upper Galwally, Castlereagh, BT8 6RB, on Tuesday 7 June 2011 at 8.10 p.m.

- PRESENT:** V McCoy (In the Chair)
- ALDERMEN:** J Beattie MBE
S Duncan
G Rice MBE
G Robinson (from 8.40 p.m.)
- COUNCILLORS:** A M Beattie
M Chambers (from 8.40 p.m.)
M Copeland MLA
J Cochrane MLA
D Drysdale
M Gregg (from 8.15 p.m.)
B Hanvey (until 9.15 p.m.)
C Howard
C Hall
T Jeffers (until 9.00 p.m.)
T Morrow
J Spratt MLA
D Vitty (until
J White
- IN ATTENDANCE:** Director of Administration & Community Services,
Community Services Manager and Assistant
Member Services Officer.
- APOLOGIES:** Councillors O'Reilly, Long, Sandford and Alderman
Henderson.

CS/2011/50: 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 this agenda.

Alderman White declared an interest in Oaklee Housing Association.

The Administration Manager reminded Members that a number of Declaration of Interest forms issued to Members on 11 May 2011 were still outstanding. She advised that these should be completed and returned to her as soon as possible in order to comply with the local government requirements.

Noted.

CS/2011/51: MINUTES OF THE CENTRAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 1 MARCH 2011 (copy previously circulated)

Noted.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

CS/2011/52: SALE OF LAND AT ROSNEATH (Minute ref: CS/2011/39 refers)

The Director of Administration & Community Services advised that the potential bidder, who had raised the original request, had not received the necessary funding which would enable it to bid for the land at Rosneath. The Director reported that, in order to avoid unnecessary advertising fees, expressions of interest for the sale of the land had not yet been advertised.

Noted.

CS/2011/53: FORMER NEWTOWNBRED A PRIMARY SCHOOL (Minute ref: CA/2011/44 refers)

The Director of Administration & Community Services reported that she had updated Mencap advising that the Committee had agreed, in principle, to hold exploratory discussions in relation to a potential partnership outreach facility at the former Newtownbreda Primary School site. She had also advised Mencap that the Committee had invited them to attend a future meeting of the Committee following election of the new Council. The Director of Administration & Community Services reported that she had received no further update on the current situation but advised that Mencap were scheduled to hold a Board meeting soon and further information should be available after this meeting.

Noted.

CS/2011/54: SPORTS AWARDS (Minute ref: CS/2011/37 refers)

The Director of Administration & Community Services reported that, as the Olympic gold medallist, Wendy Houvenaghel had unfortunately been unable to attend the Sports Awards, the previously approved expenditure to cover her costs had not been required.

Noted.

At this stage in proceedings Councillor Gregg entered the meeting.

REPORT BY THE ADMINISTRATION MANAGER - SECTION 1 – CIVIC MATTERS

CS/2011/55: HOMECOMING PARADE – IRISH GUARDS

The Administration Manager reminded Members that, following a proposal at the February Council meeting to offer the Irish Guards a Homecoming Parade during their visit to the province in October 2011, a letter of invitation had been sent to their Commanding Officer. She continued that they had since contacted the Council to confirm that they would be delighted to accept the invitation and had suggested that the event in Castlereagh could take place following a Service of Remembrance in St Anne's Cathedral. Members had agreed to this suggestion at the May Council meeting and the Regiment had been advised accordingly.

The Administration Manager advised that it was anticipated that there could be up to 200 Officers on parade, including the Pipes & Drums of the Regiment, with a further 100 guests expected to attend from Ulster and Dublin Branches and Cadet Force. She suggested that, given the large number of participants and guests expected, the Committee consider hosting the regiment at another venue within the Borough rather than the civic offices. With this in mind, the Manager reported that she was obtaining quotations from local hotels. Given that there was no provision included within the Civic Budget for this event, costs would be met through the special events budget.

Councillor Spratt stated that it was a tremendous honour for the Council to host the Irish Guards Homecoming Parade. He proposed that, given the status of the event and the anticipated large numbers, it would be appropriate for the Council to host the reception at an hotel with a sit down meal being provided.

Aldermen Rice concurred with Councillor Spratt's comments and seconded the proposal.

Councillor White suggested that a working group be established to assist with the organisation of the event. He outlined that this would enable Members to liaise with the relevant officers to ensure that decisions regarding the event were not held up during the summer recess period.

Following further discussion, it was

RESOLVED: - That the Council be recommended to agree that

- (a) the Administration Officer proceed to organise a sit down reception to host the Irish Guards following their homecoming parade;
- (b) a working group comprising the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Chair of Central Services and relevant officers be established to progress the organisation of the event during the summer recess period.

CS/2011/56: LISNABREENY (FORMER AMERICAN MILITARY CEMETERY)

Councillors Mrs AM Beattie and T Morrow declared an interest, being Members of the Lagan Rural Partnership.

For the benefit of new Members of Council the Administration Manager provided background information on the former American Cemetery, situated at the top of the Rocky Road.

The Administration Manager reported that, during the recess period over the recent elections, a funding opportunity had arisen through the Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme under the Lagan Rural Partnership which could enable the Council to develop the site. She continued that, following a meeting with the landowners, the National Trust, a draft plan of works had been drawn up and costed. A full history of the site together with the draft plan and associated costs of £75,000.00 had been submitted to the funders for consideration. The Administration Manager stated that although no formal letter of offer had yet been received, she had been advised, that it was likely that the maximum grant (75%) would be awarded (£56,250) leaving a balance of £18,750.

The Administration Manager advised that permission had been obtained at the Central Services Working Group to apply for planning permission for the site and to approach the American Consul General to formally enquire if they would be willing to part fund the project. This request had been forwarded to the Consul General, although a reply had not yet been received.

The Administration Manager asked Members to consider whether they would be willing to meet the balance of the costs, should no more funding be obtained. She also asked them to give consideration to an official opening of the facility which would be likely to happen in the next financial year and would need to be included in the Civic Budget at estimates.

Councillor White proposed that the Council fund the remainder of the works in the event that another funding partner could not be secured. He stated that it was necessary for the former cemetery to be developed to mark its importance within the Borough of Castlereagh.

This proposal was seconded by Alderman Beattie who congratulated the Administration Manager on progressing the funding opportunity so successfully.

Councillor Copeland also congratulated officers from other Council departments who had worked with the Administration Manager in preparing the plans for the redevelopment which he felt were both sympathetic and reflective of the importance of the former cemetery.

RESOLVED: That the Council be recommended to agree

- (a) that the Council fund the remainder of the redevelopment works at the former Lisnabreeny Cemetery, up to £18,750, in the event that another funding partner was not secured;
- (b) that funding be included within the Civic Budget for the official opening of the facility during 2012/2013.

CS/2011/57: ROYAL SALUTE, HILLSBOROUGH CASTLE

The Administration Manager advised that the Council had been asked to host the Royal Salute at Hillsborough Castle on 21 April 2012 (Minute no: 2011/131 refers). She continued that, in order to establish the extent of Council involvement, format and costs etc, officers had met with the administering Military Officers and a draft order of proceedings had been prepared. Members' attention was drawn to the draft schedule of events, which included a proposed costing of approximately £18.00 per head. They also referred to the draft guest list, which was limited to a maximum of 140 guests.

Councillor Copeland suggested that a representative be invited to represent the North Down Branch of Ulster Defence Regiment. Councillor Vitty agreed and furthermore suggested that a representative from the Local Branch of the British Legion also be invited.

The Administration Manager advised that a further meeting had already been arranged in order to review operational procedures.

The Director of Administration & Community Services advised that the Management Team were currently considering a composite corporate report on proposed celebrations/events to mark the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and this would be tabled at a further meeting of Council.

Following consideration it was

RESOLVED: - Members of the Committee recommended

- (a) that the Administration Manager proceed with the arrangements as set out in the draft schedule of events and approved the guest list as follows, at an approximate cost of £18.00 per head:
 - 23 Elected members plus guest
 - 5 Senior Management Team plus guest
 - Lord Lieutenant & Mrs Lindsay
 - 2 community reps nominated by each Councillor
 - 16 school reps – 4 from each council area
 - Business Representatives
 - Long Serving Officers

- Representative from North Down Branch of Ulster Defence Regiment
- Senior representative from the local Branch of British Legion.

(b) that the funding for the event be included within the Civic Budget for the 2012/13 financial estimates.

CS/2011/58: ROYAL BRITISH LEGION – MARCH AS FREEMEN

The Administration Manager reminded Members that the Royal British Legion were scheduled to march as Freemen of the Borough on 25 June 2011 at 11.00 a.m. to mark the 90th Anniversary of the Organisation. Sixty officers from the Cregagh, Wandsworth and Ormeau branch would exercise their right to march as Freemen of the Borough of Castlereagh, before being invited to a reception hosted by the Council in the Civic Offices. She confirmed that a letter setting out arrival, parking and robing details would be issued in due course. All expenditure for the event would be met from the current Civic Budget as approved by the Central Services Working Group and tabled at May Council for information.

The Administration Manager reminded Members that a letter of invitation had been sent from the Cregagh Branch of the Royal British Legion to a Service of Remembrance on Sunday 19 June 2011. Elected Members had been asked to wear their robes to this event and she asked Members to RSVP to Members' Services to enable robing and transportation to be organised.

Noted.

CS/2011/59: ULSTER SPORTS EXHIBITION

The Administration Manager outlined the relevant background to this request. She stated that, at the November 2010 meeting of the Leisure Services Committee, Members had considered the request from the Ulster Sports Museum (LS/2010/122 refers) to host the Ulster Sports Exhibition. The Committee had felt that the Council should support the request but had referred the matter to Central Services to provide the funds to cover both the civic launch and operational costs of the exhibition. She stated that there was no cost to hire the exhibition stands, but there would be a transportation cost of £500.00.

A provisional booking had been made to host the exhibition from 10 September 2012 – 5 October 2012 in the Civic Centre Function Suite.

The Administration Manager stated that there was an opportunity to use the exhibition to promote local sports men and women from the Borough, who had achieved success. The cost of producing the additional display boards would be incurred by the Council but she felt that there might be an opportunity to discuss the display of memorabilia through the George Best Foundation.

Insurance for the event would be covered by the Council and security was recommended during opening hours. It was anticipated that security would cost approximately £2000.00. A launch event would also be necessary to mark the opening and it was estimated that this would cost in the region of £1500.00 - £1800.00 but this figure would not include additional display boards or the attendance of any local sports personalities.

The Administration Manager continued that the Leisure Services Committee had requested that this event be delivered as a civic event but had suggested that a working group be established with civic and leisure staff to assist in the organisation of the event.

Councillor Spratt proposed that the Council proceed to host the Ulster Sports Exhibition during 10 September – 5 October 2012 in the Civic Centre Function Suite.

Councillor Drysdale seconded this proposal. As Chair of the Committee, she asked Members to note that they had now agreed to host two civic events which would be funded from next year's budget and this would need to be considered during the estimates process.

RESOLVED: -

- (a) to proceed with the Ulster Sports Exhibition as a civic event from 10 September – 5 October 2011 and to provide funding in the 2012/2013 civic budget estimates to cover the associated expenditure, as detailed in the Officer's report.
- (b) to establish a working group with civic and leisure staff to assist in the organisation of the event.

ADMINISTRATION MATTERS

CS/2011/60: REORGANISATION OF OFFICE ACCOMMODATION WITHIN CIVIC OFFICES

The Administration Manager advised that, following the changes to the Elected Representatives at the recent elections, alterations were required to the existing party room structure. She continued that, following informal discussions with the political representatives, she had contacted the original supplier of the office furniture. The Administration Manager confirmed that she had discussed this with the Procurement Officer, who has confirmed that, due to the current system having originally been installed by this company it was appropriate to use them again given that all existing office furniture was being reused but reconfigured throughout the offices with the only new purchase being 4 new tables that would be colour matched.

The Administration Manager circulated a report detailing the proposed works and also drew Members' attention to plans displayed in the Council Chamber.

At 8.40 p.m. Alderman G Robinson and Councillor M Chambers entered the meeting.

She outlined the details of the proposed reconfiguration as follows:

- Alliance Party move to existing Ulster Unionist party room;
- Ulster Unionist move to the annex off the DUP party room, with a new doorway opening onto the Members' corridor;
- SDLP to use their existing room currently being used by the Health & Safety Officer;
- Green Party to use room currently being used by Administration Manager;
- Human Resources section to be relocated to current Committee Room at end of Members' Corridor;
- Existing Alliance Party Room (upstairs) to be used as overflow meeting room/wedding room;
- Existing Human Resources Offices to be reconfigured to allow for an office for the Administration Manager with a door entering through the Administration Office. The additional office space opening onto the Members' corridor to be used by Health & Safety Officer.

The total cost of all works would be £26,234.00 + VAT. The Director of Administration & Civic Services confirmed that these works could be capitalised. She added that there was a number of benefits to these works, firstly the Human Resources section would now have a secure unit, in addition to this the Administration Manager would be closer to her staff and furthermore all the party rooms would be housed together off the Members' corridor. On this basis there was a sound business case for going forward with the recommendation.

Councillor Spratt welcomed the reconfiguration of the Offices and the value for money the works represented, he proposed that the works proceed as soon as possible.

This proposal was seconded by Councillor Gregg.

Councillor Spratt advised that the DPP used the Members' Corridor meeting room to hold their meetings and, if this would now no longer be available, he felt it would be inappropriate for the DPP to hold meetings in the Council Chamber.

Members agreed and stated that, if a room was not available in the Civic Centre, the DPP could book rooms in any of the Council's Leisure or Community facilities.

RESOLVED: - Members recommended to Council

- (a) that 1080° be appointed to carry out the works within the civic centre as outlined above, at a cost of £26,234.00 + VAT;
- (b) that the DPP should not be permitted to hold any meeting in the Council Chamber.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

CS/2011/61: LEASE – GREENWAY WOMEN’S CENTRE

The Director of Administration & Community Services advised that the Council currently leased the property used by Greenway Women’s Centre from the NIHE on a 99 year lease basis with a sub lease to Greenway Women’s Centre for a period of 15 years, which was due to expire in April 2015 with a likely extension.

She continued that a request had been received from NIHE regarding property at Number 19 Greenway, which was formerly the old district office of the NIHE. NIHE wished to relinquish its title on number 19 to Council and include this with the lease relating to GWC. This formalisation of the lease would include the disabled lift and lift shaft installed in the property by Greenway Women’s Centre.

RESOLVED: - That the Committee recommend to Council, in principle, that number 19 Greenway be included in the original lease to the Council who would subsequently sublet to Greenway Women’s Centre.

CS/2011/62: SOMME TRIP

The Administration Manager advised that the flight departing to the Somme Pilgrimage was departing from Dublin Airport very early on the morning of 28 June 2011. She reported that she had sourced accommodation beside the airport at a cost of 89 euro per room which included car parking.

RESOLVED: - Members agreed that the Administration Manager proceed to book accommodation at Dublin Airport for the evening of 27 June 2011 at a rate of 89 euro per room, given the early departure times on the morning of 28 June 2011.

SECTION 2 – COMMUNITY SERVICES MATTERS

CS/2011/63: GOOD RELATIONS GRANT AID FUND

The Community Services Manager advised that the Good Relations Grant Aid programme offered local groups and other organisations up to £1000.00 per group to develop projects aimed at promoting reconciliation and cultural diversity. He stated that this year the application timeframe had been set for Friday 20 May – Friday 10 June 2011, therefore it was currently ongoing.

He advised that the Grant Aid programme focused on the audit issues of promoting dialogue and trust between communities and engaging external organisations and groups in promoting Good Relations.

The 2011-2012 Action Plan proposed financial expenditure of £8000.00 for the Grant Aid Programme, 75% of which would hopefully be covered by OFMDFM funding, although as of yet no letter of offer had been received from OFMDFM.

Councillor Chambers proposed that a letter be forwarded immediately to the OFMDFM noting that the Council felt that it was unsatisfactory that it was still awaiting confirmation that funding would be awarded for the Good Relations Grant Aid Fund.

Members agreed that this letter should be forwarded immediately, with retrospective approval being sought at the June Council meeting.

The Community Services Manager advised that, if all went to plan, the applications would be assessed by an assessment panel in June 2011. He suggested that, to expedite the process, the Arts Grants Scheme could also be assessed on the same day and the same panel could be used to assess both. The assessment panel for the Arts had already been agreed at the May Council meeting.

Members were in agreement to this suggestion.

RESOLVED: -

- (a) that retrospective approval be given for the application timeframe of Friday 20 May – Friday 10 June 2011, for the receipt of applications to the Good Relations Grant Aid Fund;
- (b) that, to expedite the process, the Arts Grants Scheme could also be assessed on the same day as the Good Relations Grants Programme with the same assessment panel being used for both;
- (c) that a letter be forwarded immediately to OFMDFM noting that the Council felt that it was unsatisfactory that they were still awaiting confirmation in respect of whether funding would be awarded for the Good Relations Grant Aid Fund, with retrospective approval being obtained at the June Council meeting.

CS/2011/64: BALLYORAN 3G PITCH – PRICING ARRANGEMENTS

The Community Services Manager advised Members that the work on the new 3G pitch at Ballyoran Community Centre commenced, as scheduled, on Monday 9 May 2011. It was anticipated that the facility would be open for business in the near future and therefore Officers were seeking Committee approval for the charging structure for the remainder of the financial year.

The Community Services Manager briefed Members on the current charging structure for the slightly larger pitch at Cregagh Youth & Community Centre and suggested an introductory rate of £15.32 per hour plus £3.00 per hour for lights at the new pitch at Ballyoran. In addition to this, it was also suggested that, to encourage usage by young people within the local community when the pitch was not booked, a 'pay & play' charge of £0.50 for children of primary school age and £1.00 for children of secondary school age be introduced.

Councillor Gregg stated that he felt the rate of £15.32 should be rounded down. Councillor Drysdale concurred and proposed an introductory rate for a six month period of £12.00 per hour which would be reviewed as part of the Section's annual pricing policy review schedule.

Councillor White seconded this proposal.

Members referred to the differential rates between Community and Leisure facilities. The Director of Administration & Community Services reminded Members that Community Services obtained government funding for many of their programmes due to the community support nature of this work whilst Leisure Services relied solely on income. Therefore it was hard to draw like for like comparisons.

The Community Services Manager asked Members to give consideration to the official opening of the new pitch. He reported that he was currently awaiting a list of name suggestions from the local community, which would be tabled at a future meeting for consideration.

RESOLVED: - Members approved

- (a) the 'introductory hire charge' of £12.00 per hour plus £3.00 per hour for lights, at the new Ballyoran Pitch for a six month period, following which it would be reviewed in line with the annual review of the pricing policy;
- (b) the 'pay & play' rates of £0.50 & £1.00 for primary and secondary school children respectively to use the facility when available.

At 9.00 p.m. Councillor Jeffers left the meeting.

CS/2011/65: REQUESTS FROM BRANIEL & CLONDUFF COMMUNITY ASSOCIATIONS

The Community Services Manager advised Members that two requests had been received from local community groups requesting permission to make a presentation to a future meeting of the Committee.

Braniel Community Association had been working with a number of other agencies towards the creation of a community audit/business plan for the area and group. This exercise had recently been completed and the group were

keen to present the findings of the audit and give an overview of the business plan to Members of the Council.

Clonduff Community Association still wished to pursue the proposal for them to take over the management of Clonduff Community Centre under a voluntary management lease. The Community Services Manager reminded Members that a copy of the group's business plan had been tabled at Central Services in 2010 and again in February of this year when Members had agreed that it would be best to consider the request following the local elections. Clonduff Community Association had now requested the opportunity to present, in detail, their business plan and outline proposals in respect of the future management of Clonduff Community Centre.

The Chairman suggested that, given that the Associations had already been delayed due to the recent elections, Members consider allowing them to make their presentations at the special meeting of Central Services to be organised before June's Council meeting. The Community Services Manager would liaise with Members Services and the Chair of the Committee to ascertain a suitable date.

RESOLVED:- that the Committee accept the requests from both Braniel and Clonduff Community Associations to make presentations and that they be invited to attend the special meeting of the Central Services Committee to be convened during June 2011

CS/2011/66: FUNDING REQUEST – SEELB

The Community Services Manager advised that a request had been received from SEELB seeking a financial contribution towards its 2011 Summer Scheme Programme.

The officer advised that the SEELB Programme was specifically targeted at four special schools in the area. The Board advised in their correspondence that their scheme was aimed at substituting mainstream summer programmes to ensure equality of opportunity for children/young people who could not access mainstream activities. The correspondence did not specify the level of funding requested from the Council.

Following consideration it was

RESOLVED:- That Community Services Manager write to SEELB advising that the Council would not be supporting the Board's request for funding towards the summer scheme programme as the scheme was restricted to children attending the 4 identified schools and was not open to all children throughout the Borough.

Councillor Harvey left the meeting at 9.15 p.m.

CS/2011/67: FUTURE TOGETHER (COMMUNITY SPORTS)

The Community Services Manager updated Members that the "Sport4Peace" Programme under the theme of "The Future Together", was one of the Peace III Partner Direct Delivery projects currently being delivered by Castlereagh/Lisburn Councils with a budget of £99,000.00.

A Project Officer and two Community Sports Development Officers had been recruited and commenced employment. A Senior Officers Steering Group had also been established, this was made up of officers from both Councils, who would be meeting monthly to monitor and oversee the project.

The Community Services Manager outlined to Members that the Sport4Peace project had 5 strands. The project was due to end in September but he advised that a request for an extension to the programme was being made to the SEUPB.

The term-time programme was currently being delivered in 14 community groups and 4 schools across the two council areas. In addition to this, the tender for a company to conduct sports research closed on 16 May 2011 and Cogent Management Consulting had been appointed. Twenty participants from both Council areas had been selected for a coaching programme due to commence on 1 June 2011 and proposals for the summer programme were being finalised, along with the conference.

The Community Services Manager advised that delays in project assessment had impacted on the amount of time for project delivery. He continued that, whilst there was sufficient funding available to implement the programme, time constraints might have an impact on the overall quality of delivery and achievement of targets. In addition to this, all services were subject to E.U. procurement regulations, as well as Council procurement guidelines which all caused further delays in service delivery.

Spend to date: Project Officer - £5420.14, Community Sports Development Officer - £9786.41, Recruitment Costs - £3368.76, Travel Costs - £313.57. Total Costs = £18,889.00

RESOLVED: - That the Council be recommended to agree the spend to date of £18,889.00 as detailed above, and also agree to approve spend retrospectively over the summer session providing it was within the parameters of the agreed budget, with a full update report being tabled at the September Central Services Meeting.

CS/2011/68: CREATING CAPACITY FOR DIALOGUE ACROSS COMMUNITIES

The Community Services Manager advised that the above project was another Peace III Partner Direct Delivery project being delivered by Castlereagh/Lisburn Councils, with a budget of £103,400.00. A letter of offer had been received for the project and a Project Officer had been recruited. A Senior Officers Steering Group had also been established which was made

up of officers from both Councils, who would be meeting monthly to monitor and oversee the project.

The project had 3 strands, firstly to create an overarching Community Network along with 9 Electoral area engagement forums as well as a proposal to create a bonfire strategy (up to 2014). The Bonfire Strategy would showcase with the burning of two bonfire beacons to animate two neutral spaces by hosting two cultural events, one in each council area.

The Community Services Manager continued that a tender had been advertised to recruit a contractor to implement the Community Network and Blue Zebra had been appointed to carry out this work.

In addition to this, two beacons were being purchased from Groundwork NI under a sole provider arrangement with the SEUPB for showcasing the relevant bonfire builders/communities on or before 12 July 2011. He reported that the showcasing of the beacons had been incorporated into two community festival type events, Castlereagh's would be held at the Cregagh Estate with Lisburn still to decide on their venue.

Quotes for creating a bonfire strategy were currently being sought from relevant providers.

The Community Services Manager advised that delays in project assessment had impacted on the amount of time for project delivery. He continued that whilst there was sufficient funding available to implement the programme, time constraints might have an impact on the overall quality of delivery and achievement of targets. In addition to this, all services were subject to E.U. procurement regulations as well as Council procurement guidelines which all caused further delays in service delivery.

RESOLVED: - That the Council be recommended to agree the spend retrospectively over the summer session providing it was within the parameters of the agreed budget, with a full update report being tabled at the September Central Services Meeting.

CS/2011/69: SUMMER SCHEME 'IN CENTRE' PROGRAMME

The Community Services Manager reported that the annual community services summer scheme programme was scheduled to run from 25 July – 12 August 2011, across ten venues in Castlereagh. He advised that the scheme had an annual budget of £85,000.00 to cover all costs and it was anticipated that it would be attended by approximately 700 children.

As a result of the reduced 'out centre' programme, officers had endeavoured to increase the number of 'in centre' activities to ensure that participants had the opportunity to experience a diverse range of activities. He advised that the following activities had been provisionally booked and would be confirmed following Committee approval: football, basketball, deaf awareness, face

painting, dance, home safety, drama, gardening, drumming workshop, rock it ball, jewellery making, archery, story telling, boccia and polystyrene printing.

He added that each facilitator would be required to provide public liability insurance, details of employment and would be Access NI checked.

RESOLVED: - That Council be recommended to approve the programmes as detailed and the spend to date of £3750.00, with a full report being tabled at the September meeting of the Committee which would detail all expenditure within the agreed budget.

CS/2011/70: SUMMER SCHEME 'OUT CENTRE' PROGRAMME

The Community Services Manager reported that the annual community services summer scheme programme was scheduled to run from 25 July – 12 August 2011, across ten venues in Castlereaugh. He advised that the scheme also had an annual budget of £85,000.00 to cover all costs, and it was anticipated that it would be attended by approximately 700 children.

In line with the Council's child protection policy, the ratio of staff to children had been increased. Due to this increase, the number of trips had had to be reduced as there would be a greater number of staff required. To compensate for change, the community services team had designed an out of centre programme that enabled each child to participate in 1 out of centre activity per week.

The Community Services Manager detailed that the out of centre programme has a varied timetable which included DIIB, an adventure day in Belvoir Forest Park with Mobile Team Adventure and W5 at the Odyssey to include workshops.

RESOLVED:- That the Council be recommended to approve the content of the annual 'out of centre' summer scheme programme, at a total cost of £7702.40, with a full report being tabled at the September meeting of the Committee which would detail all expenditure with the agreed budget.

VERBAL REPORTS

CS/2011/71: 2011 – 2014 COMMUNITY SUPPORT PLAN

The Community Services Manager advised that Blue Zebra had been appointed to prepare the Community Support Plan 2011 – 2014, which the Council was required to produce as a prerequisite for funding allocation for the Department for Social Development. He continued that a draft plan was now available which they were keen to present to Members to ascertain views and feedback ahead of approval and submission of the final plan by the end of June.

Following discussion, it was decided that this presentation could be added to the agenda for the special Central Services meeting agreed earlier in the meeting.

RESOLVED: - The Committee agreed to invite Blue Zebra to make a presentation of the draft Community Support Plan to the special Central Services Meeting being convened during June 2011.

CS/2011/72: NEW PLAY PARK AT MONEYREAGH COMMUNITY FACILITY

The Community Services Manager reported that the plans for the proposed new play park at Moneyreagh had been prepared and had been submitted for planning approval.

Councillor Spratt thanked the Community Services Manager for the work he had put in with the Community Association at Moneyreagh. He stated that many of the residents had been disillusioned with the state of the old playground and the amount of anti social behaviour in the area and the officer had worked hard in trying to work with the community to resolve these issues.

Members discussed possible options for the future use of the existing site, once the new park had been developed.

Following discussion, Councillor Spratt proposed that officers proceed to explore the possibility of disposing of the land, with the stipulation that any proceeds raised would go towards the development of the new play park at the Community Centre.

This proposal was seconded by Councillor White.

RESOLVED: - it be recommended to Council that officers be authorised to investigate the options available regarding disposal of the land on which the existing playground was sited, with the clear stipulation that any proceeds raised would go towards the development of the new play park at the Moneyreagh Community Centre.

SUPPLEMENTARY ITEMS

The Community Services Manager sought permission to raise a number of verbal supplementary items.

CS/2011/73: AMENDMENT TO DECISIONS REGISTER

The Community Services Manager referred to the decision at the May Council meeting to award £7,798.98 to Castlereagh Community Cultural Forum under the Good Relations Programme. He indicated that 2 quotations had had to be missed from the original allocation, one for Longstone and one for Tullycarnet, and he requested Members' approval to issue an amendment to

the original letter of offer for an additional £1,100. The Community Services Manager advised that the new total could be met under the 2011/2012 Good Relations Action Plan.

RESOLVED: - Members agreed to an amendment to the original letter of offer for £1,100 be issued to Castlereagh Community Cultural Forum.

CS/2011/74: MIDNIGHT SOCCER PROGRAMME

The Community Services Manager advised that he was delighted to report that the Council had recently been awarded an additional £17,440.00 and this would enable the Community Safety Partnership to extend their Midnight Street Soccer Programme.

He also added that the Castlereagh Midnight Soccer Programme had recently received the 'Best Project Award' from the Belfast Telegraph – 'Make a Difference Awards'. This was an excellent achievement given that the programme was running throughout Northern Ireland.

Members expressed their delight that this programme could now be extended and asked the Chair to write to those members of staff involved in the delivery of the programme congratulating them on the recent award the programme had received.

RESOLVED: -

- (a) that the Chair write to the staff members involved in the delivery of the Midnight Street Soccer Programme congratulating them, on behalf of the Committee, on the recent 'Best Project Award' awarded to the Midnight Street Soccer Programme.
- (b) that officers be given approval to sign the offer of funding from the Community Safety Partnership to extend the programme for the 2011/2012 year.

CS/2011/75: CHILD PROTECTION TRAINING

The Community Services Manager advised that the Council was currently working in partnership with Belfast Health Trust, who had been training 3 staff from the Council to enable them to deliver child protection training, both internally and externally, to community groups. He advised that, as part of the assessment process, the trainees were required to provide community based delivery to enable them to achieve their qualification. The Community Services Manager indicated that this training, working in conjunction with Charter, would take place in Ballyoran Community Centre on 20, 21, 27 and 28 June 2011. Arising from this partnership arrangement, a request has been received from the Trust to utilise Ballyoran Community Centre free of charge, and this was being recommended by officers

.

RESOLVED: - Members recommended that Belfast Health Trust be granted free use of Ballyoran Community Centre on 20, 21, 27 and 28 June 2011 from 6.30pm – 9.30pm to facilitate trainee delivery of a child protection programme.

CS/2011/76: CAREER BREAK REQUEST

The Community Services Manager advised that the part time Administrative Support Officer had requested a career break lasting 12 months, which would commence on a mutually agreed date.

He confirmed that this request met the requirements of the Council's Career Break Policy and would be tabled at the Finance & General Purposes Committee for information.

Following discussion it was

RESOLVED: That the Council be recommended to approve

- (a) that the Administrative Support Officer be granted a Career Break lasting 12 months, beginning on a mutually agreed date.
- (b) that the Community Services Manager be authorised to advertise for a Administrative Support Officer on a 1 year fixed term.

CS/2011/77: DUNGOYNE BOWLERS

The Director of Administration & Community Services advised that negotiations with Dungoyne Bowlers were ongoing in respect of the bowlers taking over the lease of the facility. Dungoyne Bowlers had appointed legal representation and she was hopeful that this matter could be mutually resolved in the near future.

Noted.

CS/2011/78: EXPLORE & COMMUNITIES EVENT

Councillor Copeland advised that he had recently attended the Explore & Communities Event. He advised that this was a very well organised event and asked the Community Services Manager to pass his congratulations onto the staff involved.

Noted.

CS/2011/79: TUESDAY BREAK CLUB

The Chairman, Councillor McCoy advised that she had attended a recent meeting of the Tuesday Break Club and they too had been extremely complimentary of Community Services staff. She also requested that the Community Services Manager pass this on to his staff.

Noted.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.25 p.m.

CHAIRMAN

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Adopted by the Council this _____ day of
_____ 2011 with the exception of

Minute Nos. _____

MAYOR

CHIEF EXECUTIVE