

BALLYMONEY BOROUGH COUNCIL**Leisure & Amenities Committee Meeting No 350 – 24th October 2008****Table of Contents**

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350.24	Riverside Park, Ballymoney – Purchase of Wildflower Plugs and Planting Service from Eco Seeds	<i>Agreed that as regards the service sought Council would set aside it's procurement policy</i>
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350.26

Community Hall Projects

on 3rd November

For Information

BALLYMONEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Minutes of Leisure & Amenities Committee Meeting No 350 held in the Council Chamber, Riada House, Ballymoney on Friday 24th October 2008 at 10.00am.

IN THE CHAIR: F Campbell

PRESENT: **Alderman**
H Connolly
C Cousley, Deputy Mayor

Councillors
A Cavlan
M McCamphill
A Patterson (VC)
E Robinson

APOLOGIES J Finlay (Mayor)
J Simpson
I Stevenson

IN ATTENDANCE Director of Borough Services
Committee Clerk

AMENITIES**350.1 DRUMBOLCAN PARK, RASHARKIN**

Committee last considered its spend priorities as regards Drumbolcan Park, Rasharkin, at the Leisure & Amenities Committee held on 18th March 2008 (Minute LAC 341.13 refers). Committee/Council agreed "to further consult with the Management Committee". In this regard the Director of Borough Services attended the meeting of Rasharkin Management Committee held on 24th September 2008. It was the view of the Rasharkin Management Committee that its priority as regards spend at Drumbolcan Park would be a scheme to both extend and improve car parking at the facility. Councillor McKay and Councillor McCamphill (representative of Rasharkin Management Committee) attended the meeting.

IT IS RECOMMENDED that Committee consider the views of the Rasharkin Management Committee and make recommendation to Council.

The Director informed Members that in his meeting with the Management Committee he had been advised that at busy times due to the lack of car parking, vehicles had to be parked on the roadside, a practice not considered terribly safe. He advised that he had asked the Council's consultants to look again at the previous car parking

improvement proposals and to give an up-to-date cost estimate in time for the Committee's November meeting. He asked that Members note the views of the Management Committee and intimated that the matter be carried forward to Rates Estimates round for 2009-2010, when Council would deal with its spend priorities in the next financial year. In response to Councillor Robinson, the Director confirmed that no provision had been made in the present year's budget to improve car parking at Drumbolcan Park. Councillor Robinson stated that the matter ought to be considered in next year's budget setting discussions, advising that whilst the proposed work had merit, there were many other competing projects also under consideration by Council.

In response to a question from Councillor McCamphill, the Director clarified the financial arrangement between Rasharkin Management Committee and Council regarding electricity usage at the Drumbolcan Park changing accommodation. Whilst the Management Committee paid the total electricity bill for the facility, in order to offset the electricity used by players, Council remitted half of the income from the Playing Fields to the Management Committee. Councillor McCamphill stated that he found this arrangement to be satisfactory. Councillor Robinson intimated that she was aware of the arrangements explained by the Director from information in the Rates book.

- * **Councillor Robinson left the meeting at 10.20am**
- * **Councillor Robinson returned to the meeting at 10.31am**

350.2 CONTRACTOR SELECT LISTS: Proposed 3G Synthetic Pitch

In accordance with the Council's decision at its meeting on 4th August 2008 (Minute CM 886.8 refers) a public advertisement was placed seeking applications from contractors for inclusion on a select list for this proposed Council project, namely the provision of a third generation synthetic grass floodlit pitch at Riada Playing Fields. The 11no. applications received by the deadline – 12.00 noon, 19th September were opened by the Chair of the Council's Leisure & Amenities Committee (Alderman Campbell) and the Head of Amenities on 19th September at 2.00pm and passed to the Council's consultants: R Robinson & Sons for report.

As recommended by the Council's consultants: R Robinson & Sons, **IT IS RECOMMENDED** that the Council's select list of contractors for the proposed 3rd generation synthetic pitch is -

Crawford Contracts Limited, Woodside Road, Ballymena
 Whitemountain Quarries Limited, 1 Letterloan Road, Macosquin
 Fox Contracts t/a Fox Building & Engineering Limited, 250 Drumnakilly Road, Omagh
 Earney Contracts Limited, 221 Comber Road, Lisburn
 Clive Richardson Limited, 54 Derrycoose Road, Annaghmore
 Heron Brothers Limited, 2 St Patricks Street, Draperstown
 McAuley Construction Limited, Lurgan Road, Banbridge
 Brendan Loughran & Sons Limited, 11 Termon Road, Carrickmore

It was proposed by Alderman Connolly, seconded by Alderman Cousley and **AGREED:**

to recommend to Council that Crawford Contracts Limited, Woodside Road, Ballymena, Whitemountain Quarries Limited, Fox Contracts t/a Fox Building & Engineering Limited, Earney Contracts Limited, Clive Richardson Limited, Heron Brothers Limited, McAuley Construction Limited, Brendan Loughran & Sons Limited form the Councils Select List for proposed 3rd generation synthetic pitch grass floodlit pitch at Riada Playing Fields.

350.3 CROAGHAN WAY – Comprising The Breen Forest and Milibern Walks

Croaghan Mountain lies between Knocklyd to the north and Slieveanorra to the south and is the only official hill walking route within Ballymoney Borough. Two walks incorporating Croaghan summit are publicised by Council. The longer Breen Forest Walk at 5.5 miles and the 3-mile Milibern Walk are featured as two of the six products in the “Walk Ballymoney” literature. In March 2008, having registered the walks with the Countryside Access and Activities Network “Quality Walks” Scheme, both walks were given a quality accreditation as well as Riverside Park. As a result, the Breen Forest Walk was renamed and marketed as “The Croaghan Way” and now features in the popular “Walk Northern Ireland” brochure. As the route lies wholly within the Antrim Coast and Glens Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty it is especially important to protect it as a recreational and visitor resource within the Borough. Relevant walks literature was previously circulated.

There are however a number of issues with regard to the future of the route and its maintenance -

1. North West Nature Reserves, working on behalf of NIEA, have outlined that there are proposals to designate Croaghan as an Area of Special Scientific Interest (ASSI). This could have serious implications on the future use by the public.
2. A Permitted Path Agreement made between Ballymoney Borough Council and the Milibern Trust in 1997 now requires renewal as new landowners, Blakiston-Houston Estates, have taken over the lands from the Milibern Trust.
3. Although the walks start and finish in Ballymoney Borough, a sizeable section lies within Moyle District Council under the ownership of Forest Service (Breen Forest). While Forest Service have agreed to The Ulster and Moyle Way marked ways passing through Breen, it is still to agree the Croaghan Way route and may require a licence agreement to be entered into with the relevant local authority.
4. The route has been a long-standing one for use by charitable organisations and walks on their behalf. Feedback from these events suggests there is a need for further way marking along the route, particularly required in poor weather conditions. Also, the start of the walk at the Altarichard Road requires a small bridge to be put in place in order to span a small but deep ditch. Council have put temporary facilities in place previously, but these have been washed away in wet conditions.

5. The Altarichard car park which services the walking route and acts as a key visitor picnic site has been in a state of decline for well over five years and is in need of upgrading including new visitor interpretation.

IT IS RECOMMENDED that Council –

- in any proposed ASSI designation ensure such designation allows for public access, in order that this important recreational route is both preserved and maintained;
- renew the Permissible Path Agreement with Blakiston-Houston Estates;
- continue to work with Forest Service and Moyle District Council to reach agreement as regards Breen Forest access;
- undertake minor work to improve way marking and provide the necessary small bridge at the start of the walk; and
- prepare a scheme for the upgrading of its Altarichard property with a view to sourcing funding for these improvements.

Councillor Patterson agreed that it was very important that Walks are signed, as it is easy to get lost. Alderman Campbell agreed that walks should be signed especially when visitors are coming to a strange area. Alderman Connolly was wary of spending money on the picnic area due to previous incidences of vandalism. Councillor Robinson commended the Director for his intent to seek funding elsewhere for the possible improvements to the Council's Altarichard property.

It was proposed by Alderman Connolly, seconded by Councillor Robinson and **AGREED:**

to recommend to Council that –

- ***in any proposed ASSI designation ensure such designation allows for public access, in order that this important recreational route is both preserved and maintained;***
- ***renew the Permissible Path Agreement with Blakiston-Houston Estates;***
- ***continue to work with Forest Service and Moyle DC to reach agreement as regards Breen Forest access;***
- ***undertake minor work to improve way marking and provide the necessary small bridge at the start of the walk; and***
- ***prepare a scheme for the upgrading of its Altarichard property with a view to sourcing funding for these improvements.***

350.4 THE METAL BRIDGE WALK, STRANOCUM

Members will be aware that there is a commonly recognised public right of way near Stranocum. The route, which has been signposted by Ballymoney Borough Council, runs from the Gracehill Road to the Ballinlea Road, via the Livery Road, a section of which is unadopted by Roads Service. The linear route crosses the River Bush by

way of a metal bridge, hence the popular name. This route has been in existence for hundreds of years and can clearly be seen on the first Ordnance Survey maps produced in 1830. It is unclear if a bridge existed at this time, but there was and currently still is a ford crossing over the river. Elderly residents can allude to a wooden bridge having existed and this was replaced by Ballymoney Borough Council, possibly fifteen years ago with the current metal one, due to public demand. The Metal Bridge Walk also forms one of the six walks publicised by Council in the popular "Walk Ballymoney" publication and is an important recreational asset within the Borough. To this end Members are informed that investigations are under way to determine ownership across the entirety of the laneway with a view to Council formally asserting the Metal Bridge Walk as a Public Right of Way. In doing so this will legally protect the access in perpetuity and keep it open and free from obstruction. As Council provided the current metal bridge it has thereby assumed the responsibility for its on going maintenance. The decking is currently suffering from wear and tear and the exterior paintwork is poor.

IT IS RECOMMENDED that Council note –

- the on-going work with regard to the possible assertion as a public right of way; and
- its obligation as regards the maintenance of its 'Metal Bridge'.

It is Council's responsibility to look at and make an assessment of works maintenance required and its cost established.

It was proposed by Councillor Robinson, seconded by Alderman Connolly and **AGREED:**

to recommend to Council to note the on-going work with regard to the possible assertion of the Metal Bridge Walk, Stranocum; and its obligation as regards the maintenance of its 'Metal Bridge'.

350.5 DERRYKEIGHAN OLD GRAVEYARD

Correspondence has recently been received on behalf of the Select Vestry of the Parish Church of St Colman, Derrykeighan. The letter draws Council's attention to two matters relating to Derrykeighan Old Graveyard –

- the presence of graffiti and
- the need for suitable signage to the Old graveyard and church ruins.

IT IS RECOMMENDED that Council note the matters raised, that action will be taken to remove the graffiti and that a report will be presented to a future Committee meeting as to how the old graveyard and church ruins might be suitably signed.

It was proposed by Alderman Connolly, seconded by Councillor Robinson and **AGREED:**

to recommend that Council note the matters raised, namely that action will be taken to remove the graffiti and that a report will be presented to a future Committee meeting as to how the old graveyard and church ruins might be suitably signed.

350.6 BALLYMONEY CEMETERY MEMORIALS

Applications have been received as undernoted for the erection of memorials in Ballymoney Cemetery.

Section I3 No. 58

Ms Marion Coyles, 3 Agherton Park, Ballymoney
Black Granite Headstone and Base

Section H3 No. 87

Mr, Joseph Loudon, 39 Ballymena Road, Ballymoney
All Polished Black Granite Headstone & Base

Section I3 No. 86

Mrs Phyllis Shirley, 34 Dehra Gardens, Ballymoney
All Polished Granite Headstone and Base

IT IS RECOMMENDED that Council grant permission to the above applicants to erect memorials in Ballymoney Cemetery, subject to usual requirements.

It was proposed by Alderman Cousley, seconded by Councillor Patterson and
AGREED:

to recommend that Council grant permission to the above applicants to erect memorials in Ballymoney Cemetery, subject to usual requirements.

350.7 AMENITIES SUB-COMMITTEES

Meetings of the undernoted Amenities Sub-Committees were held on Tuesday 14th October 2008 (circulated, appendix 1):

- 1) Cloughmills Recreational Facility Sub-Committee
- 2) Multi-Use Area/Megaw Park Sub-Committee

IT IS RECOMMENDED that the minutes of 1) Cloughmills Recreational Facility Sub-Committee and 2) Multi-Use Area/Megaw Park Sub-Committee be agreed.

- * **Alderman Campbell left the meeting at 11.07**
- * **Alderman Campbell returned to the meeting at 11.10am**

It was proposed by Councillor McCamphill, seconded by Councillor Patterson and
AGREED:

to recommend to Council that the minutes of Cloughmills Recreational facility Sub Committee Meeting No 7, held on Tuesday 14th October 2008 as circulated, be confirmed as a correct record.

- * Councillor Cavlan arrived at the meeting at 11.23am
- * Alderman Connolly left the meeting at 11.34am
- * Alderman Connolly returned to the meeting at 11.35am

It was proposed by Alderman Cousley, seconded by Councillor Cavlan and
AGREED:

to recommend to Council that the minutes of Multi-Use Arena/Megaw Park Amenities Sub-Committee Meeting No 3, held on Tuesday 14th October as circulated, be confirmed as a correct record.

350.8 BALLYMONEY WAR MEMORIAL

It has been suggested that Council ought, prior to this years acts of Remembrance (Sunday 9th November) undertake necessary work at the Ballymoney War Memorial. The work (pressure washing and painting) has been estimated at £420.

IT IS RECOMMENDED that Committee consider and determine the matter seeking retrospective Council approval if necessary given the time constraints this year.

Councillor Robinson intimated that the work be done with all speed as it was fitting that Council honour the dead of our community. Councillor Cavlan concurred with Councillor Robinson. Councillor Robinson commented that an excellent job had been carried out at Stranocum War Memorial.

It was proposed by Councillor Robinson, seconded by Councillor Cavlan and
AGREED:

to recommend to Council to undertake necessary work at the Ballymoney War Memorial (pressure washing and painting) prior to Sunday 9th November 2008.

350.9 NACNI AWARDS: EXCELLENCE IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Councillor Robinson has received correspondence from the National Association of Councillors Northern Ireland Region. The letter mentions that NAC have decided "to introduce this new scheme to award developments which have been introduced into each Council area, for the benefit of the Community within at...". The deadline for receipt of application is: 1st November 2008.

A copy of the Association letter and enclosures were circulated.

In that nominations are a matter for Council and Councillors this matter is tabled for Committee's attention.

IT IS RECOMMENDED that Committee make a decision whether or not to nominate and seek Council endorsement in retrospect given the 1st November deadline relating to the NACNI Awards: Excellence in Local Government.

Members discussed the matter making reference to a number of Council and other facilities which might be nominated. Councillor Robinson confirmed that either individual councillors or Council might nominate, but given the deadline of 1st November it was probably best if Members might consider further and make nominations.

It was proposed by Alderman Connolly, seconded by Councillor Cavlan and
AGREED:

to recommend to Council that, due to the impending deadline, each individual Councillor nominate, should they so choose, directly to the NACNI Excellence in Local Government Awards.

350.10 RIVERSIDE PARK, BALLYMONEY: POTENTIAL LOCAL NATURE RESERVE

Members are asked to note that the Lower Bann Advisory Committee has commissioned the Farming and Wildlife Group (FWAG) to undertake a Bio-Diversity Action Plan for the Lower Bann Valley and flood plains. The purpose of the work being undertaken is to identify the priority species and habitats in the area and recommend actions (and lead partners for these actions) which will help conserve, protect and enhance these priority species and habitats. FWAG has advised “we have looked at Riverside Park in Ballymoney and believe it to be an area worthy of the status of Local Nature Reserve...”. Initial investigatory work has been undertaken by Council staff in order to be informed as to both purpose and process regarding the designation suggested – a decision, following consultation, for Council itself.

IT IS RECOMMENDED that Council note the on-going work regarding the possible designation of its Riverside Park, Ballymoney, as a Local Nature Reserve.

It was proposed by Alderman Connolly, seconded by Councillor Patterson and
AGREED:

to recommend to Council to note the on-going work regarding the possible designation of its Riverside Park, Ballymoney, as a Local Nature Reserve.

350.11 CAUSEWAY COAST & GLENS HERITAGE TRUST

The Causeway Coast & Glens Heritage Trust (CCGHT) was established as a company limited by guarantee, a partnership body, in May 2002 in order to protect and enhance the unique qualities of the Causeway Coast & Glens Area. The establishment of the Trust was in response to the need for such a body to follow on from the work of the Causeway Initiative, whose main objectives were to establish an effective visitor and environmental management structure for the North East Area and to promote sustainable tourism. The CCGHT is currently core funded by NIEA, NITB,

Ballymena BC, Ballymoney BC, Coleraine BC, Larne BC, Limavady BC and Moyle DC.

A review of the Mourne Heritage Trust and the Causeway Coast & Glens Heritage Trust and the development of recommendations for management structures for Mourne AONB and Antrim Coast & Glens, Causeway Coast and Binevenagh AONB, jointly funded by NIEA and NITB, has been set in train, with the consultant appointed charged with examining and reporting with particular emphasis on the following areas:

- assessment of the need for area based management bodies;
- objectives of such bodies;
- operation of such bodies;
- geographic area of operation/review of the operational boundary of such bodies, taking into account RPA;
- management structure of such bodies;
- reviewing the CCGHT Board including its constitution and make up;
- staffing;
- financial support; and
- governance.

It is believed that the final report is to issue by 28th November 2008.

350.12 BALLYMONEY CONNECT2 PROJECT - UPDATE

Members are advised that the Ballymoney Connect2 Project is progressing well with some five Steering Group meetings having taken place since the public vote in December 2007. Sustrans has indicated that it wishes to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with both Council and Translink, as the mechanism by which Big Lottery funding will be distributed to all Sustrans projects UK-wide. All parties are currently assessing the MOU and when an agreed draft document is available this will then be put to Committee/Council for approval. One element of the MOU is the need to incorporate Community Objectives as a priority element of the project. In order to meet this a Draft Community Engagement Plan has been drawn up as a basis for ongoing discussion. Translink has produced a Programme Timetable in relation to the construction of the new railway bridge and associated access links onto Seymour Street and Riverside Park. It is also currently working on a Project Identification Document to take to the October Executive Group. This will release the funding to begin the necessary economic appraisal in January 2009 and a Letter of Offer from DRD is expected in May 2009, providing everything is in order. It is hoped that construction will start on site in September 2010 with a completion date of January 2011. Issues currently under discussion include any implications associated with Translink's proposal to close the existing level crossing, as the construction of a new railway bridge will provide a safer method of crossing the line, together with the need to better identify the new Joey Dunlop Leisure Centre Greenway from the Leisure Centre itself.

Members will be kept updated regularly on progress in relation to this important town centre project.

* **Alderman Cousley left the meeting at 12.25pm**

350.13 CHRISTMAS TREE PROVISION

Members are advised that arrangements have been made with regard to the provision by Council of Christmas trees in 2008. In addition to the Ballymoney Town Tree, smaller trees will be provided and erected at Ballybogey, Balnamore, Bendooragh, Cloughmills, Dervock, Derrykeighan, Druckendult, Dunloy, Killyrammer, Loughgiel, Rasharkin and Stranocum. The provision for 2008 mirrors that made in recent years.

350.14 JDLC/RIVERSIDE PARK CYCLE/FOOTWAY LINK

Members are advised that a new `interpretative' panel has recently been installed on the above link, now termed the "Joey Dunlop Leisure Centre Greenway", at the Leaney PS junction. Photographs of the panel were circulated.

350.15 LETTERS OF THANKS

The following letters of thanks have been received in respect of assistance rendered by the Council's Amenities staff to the organisations named –

1. Dunloy Accordion Band
"May I on behalf of the officers and Members of Dunloy Accordion Band thank you very much for your help and assistance in helping us provide a truly memorable Ulster Scots Festival and Parade for the people of Ballymoney".
2. Stranocum & District Community Association
"On behalf of the above community association, we would like to thank you for all your hard work and commitment during our Festival week. The week would not be a success without any of you
- Please accept our sincere thanks for all your continued support not just for this year but all the years. We appreciate all your work greatly".

350.16 FUNDING APPLICATION FOR CYCLE/SHARED USE PATH AT RODEING FOOT WOOD, RIVERSIDE PARK

Members are informed that an application for funding for the last phase of Cycle/Shared Use Path in Riverside Park has been made to Sport NI by its deadline of 17th October 2008. The application to the "Places for Sport: Surfaces 08/09" Programme is seeking 100% of the estimated project construction cost of £90,000.

350.17 FESTIVE LIGHTING INSTALLATION 2008

The Council's Festive Lighting Contract, let in 2006 was for a two year period (2006 and 2007) with a possible extension for one or two years. The one-year extension has been invoked for 2008 and JF&H Dowds will again undertake the works. On this occasion DRD Roads Service Street Lighting for the first time require the installation

to be licensed viz “Licence to Place Festive Lighting on Roads” in accordance with Code of Practice (CP-1), The Installation and Operation of Festive Decorations On, Along or Above a Road or Footway – 2008 Revision. This potential requirement was envisaged when the specification for the 2006 and 2007 scheme was being prepared and the requirements of the Code of Practice embodied in the specification. The licence application has been submitted.

With regard to the safe installation of the work, DRD Roads Service Traffic Management have offered advice/assistance to the Council’s contractor.

Subject to the issue of the licence, installation works are scheduled to commence on 20th October in preparation for lights switch-on on 27th November 2008.

350.18 FIREWORKS DISPLAY AT RIADA STADIUM - 31st October 2008

Members are advised that the forthcoming display is organised and supervised by the Amenities Section.

350.19 AMENITIES PROJECTS 2008-2009 UPDATE

Members are advised that the undernoted 2008-2009 Amenities projects have commenced and are progressing satisfactorily –

New Sand Mattress Junior Pitch at Riada Playing Fields and
New purpose-built permanent Changing Accommodation at McCamphill Park, Dunloy

350.20 CAR PARK EXTENSION AT RIADA PLAYING FIELDS & SHARED CYCLE/FOOTPATH UPGRADE AT RIVERSIDE PARK, BALLYMONEY

Tenders have been invited from the Council’s select list of contractors for the above 2008-2009 Amenities project, the deadline for receipt being Friday, 17th October 2008 at 12.00noon. Following opening, in accordance with the procedures approved by Council, the tenders received were passed to the Council’s consultants: R Robinson & Sons.

6 No. tenders were received on Friday 24th October from the following contractors:

<u>Tenderer</u>	<u>Price</u>
Northstone (NI) Limited	£169,840.58
Patrick Bradley Limited	£156,384.10
Whitemountain Quarries Ltd	£160,600.00
McLaughlin & Harvey	£157,700.00
Rogers Contracts	£171,516.00
M. P. Coleman Limited	£147,204.50

The Director advised that a Tender Report had been received from the Council’s consultants: R. Robinson & Sons on 23rd October. Documents had been forwarded to the 7 no. contractors placed on the Council’s Select List, being considered as

having the necessary experience and qualifications. Lagan Construction [a sister company of Whitemountain Quarries] had not returned a tender. The three lowest tenders were examined in detail and it was the recommendation of the Council's consultants that Council accept the lowest tender received.

* **Councillor McCamphill left the meeting at 12.45pm**

It was proposed by Councillor Cavlan, seconded by Alderman Connolly and **AGREED:**

to recommend to Council to accept the lowest tender received from M.P. Coleman Limited, Brigh Quarry, Stewartstown, for the Car Park Extension at Riada Playing Fields and the shared Cycle/Footpath Upgrade at Riverside Park, Ballymoney, in the sum of £147,204.50

350.21 TENDERS FOR THE CLEANING OF COUNCIL OFFICES (2009-2011)

Members are advised that the current contract expires at 31st December 2008. Tenders have been invited for a new three year contract commencing 01 January 2009, the deadline for receipt being Thursday 6th November 2008 at 12.00noon. Following opening, in accordance with the procedures approved by Council, tenders will be evaluated and a report will be tabled for the Committee's consideration at its November meeting.

350.22 LOWER BANN PARTNERSHIP LIMITED PROJECT UPDATE

The LBP Manager (Mark Christie) furnished on 16th October the latest update on Lower Bann Partnership projects. He advises "11 projects have benefited from enhancement grants including £30,000 for a staggered junction on the Newbridge Road in Ballymoney for the cycle route project. This has let to a total additional investment of over £250,000 in addition to the £1 million already distributed.

350.23 LOWER BANN ADVISORY COMMITTEE DRAFT MANAGEMENT STRATEGY 2008-2013

The Director advised that he had emailed to Members the Lower Bann Advisory Committee Draft Management Strategy 2008-2013, reminding those present that Council was represented on the LBAC by Councillor McCamphill. He stated that Alderman Simpson also was a member, albeit not in his councillor capacity.

350.24 RIVERSIDE PARK, BALLYMONEY – WILDFLOWER PLANTING

The Director advised that in order to progress the planting of wildflowers at the Council's Riverside Park, Ballymoney, as part of on-going improvements / biodiversity enhancement, having only been able to identify within Northern Ireland one company able to undertake the work [namely both the supply of plugs and their planting] he was asking Council to set aside its procurement policy in this one instance. The Director responded to Member questions.

It was proposed by Councillor Cavlan, seconded by Alderman Connolly and **AGREED:**

to recommend to Council that it set aside it's procurement policy in order that wildflower plugs might be purchased from and planted by Eco Seeds at the Council's Ballymoney Riverside Park.

350.25 LEISURE AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE – TIMING OF MEETINGS

The Committee Chair advised that he believed that it would be necessary, due to the pressure of business, to again split the Committee meeting in the months of November and possibly December and therefore have a separate meeting to consider Leisure and Amenities business.

It was proposed by Councillor Cavlan, seconded by Alderman Connolly and **AGREED:**

to recommend that the Leisure & Amenities sections of the November and December Committee meeting be held separately, with Amenities taking place on the stated date of 18th November in the Council Chamber at 7.00pm, and that the date and time for Leisure to be held at the Joey Dunlop Leisure Centre to be confirmed at the Council's meeting on 3rd November.

350.26 COMMUNITY HALL PROJECTS

Council at its meeting on 2nd June approved Minute LAC343.21 (20th May 2008) sanctioning "that detailed work now be undertaken into the accommodation required and the construction options which are available including estimated costs of facilities for Ballybogey, Balnamore and Stranocum and that the necessary planning approval be obtained".

In order to progress this three centre project, which has a priority one rating by virtue of the Council's current Corporate Plan, the services of the Council's consultants: R Robinson & Sons have been used, on instruction, to research possible build options for Balnamore and Stranocum and as regards Ballybogey which was considered to be a different proposition, that is, the replacement of the wooden "wall" structure between the more recent block built ends.

In addition, the Director, has met separately with each Community Association in order to consider the following and related issues –

- Facilities sought (including main room dimensions)
- Type of building and its location
- Proposed use (including present and envisaged programmes).

It is proposed at the Committee meeting to make a presentation detailing –

1. Each Community Associations aspirations concerning the facilities Council might provide.
2. The possible build options for Balnamore and Stranocum, together with respective cost estimates.
3. The replacement proposal for Ballybogey, together with estimated cost.

It is envisaged that having considered all the information presented, Committee/Council will determine what can be provided at Ballybogey, Balnamore and Stranocum, given other spend priorities, so that the respective community associations might be informed.

At Committee the Director gave a powerpoint presentation which detailed present facilities, the aspirations of the respective communities regarding the type of facilities they wished to see Council provide for their area, and proposals [including possible build options] in respect of the three villages. The handout of the Director's presentation was made available to Members at the meeting. The Director responded to detailed Member questioning. He intimated that this was a complex and time consuming project which was being progressed so that Council might define what it might provide at each location so that further work could be done and costings obtained which would inform the Council's budgetary process for 2009-2010.

It was **AGREED**:

that Members would reconsider the information now available so that when the matter was next discussed at the Committee's November meeting recommendations might be made to Council and in the meantime the Director would again liaise with each of the three Community Associations sharing that part of his Committee presentation which was relevant to each and inviting feedback.

This being all the business the meeting closed at 2.00pm

Appendix 1: Cloughmills Recreational Facility Sub-Committee Minutes and Multi-Use Area/Megaw Park Sub-Committee Minutes - Tuesday 14th October 2008

APPENDIX 1

**Cloughmills Recreational Facility Sub-Committee
Meeting No.7
Held Tuesday, 14th October 2008 at 2.30pm in Riada House**

Present: Alderman F Campbell [Chair]
Councillor J Finlay
Councillor M McCamphill
Councillor A Patterson

In Attendance: Director of Borough Services

1. Minutes Meeting No.6 (5th August 2008)

It was proposed by Councillor McCamphill, seconded by the Mayor, that the minutes of the previous meeting (No.6) held on 5th August 2008 be accepted as a true record. **This was agreed.**

2. Project Update

The Director, at the behest of the Chair, provided an update for members. He intimated that a meeting had been arranged with NIHE officials for 29th October to progress the matter raised by the Housing Executive regarding the Council's land at Strand Park.

He then advised that in response to Councillor M Storey MLA he had met with two members of the Community Action Team, together with the Mayor and Councillor Storey, on 4th September when the provision of community facilities was discussed. The Mayor then outlined what had taken place at that meeting in more detail. The Director confirmed that he had researched with the aid of the Council's consultants, previous work undertaken by Council on the Old Mill Site, the possibility of heritage grant aid and had received from Elaine Hannigan [CAT] a copy of the plans previously drawn up for the possible development of the site in 2001.

3. Project Definition

The Director reminded members that this project had been given a priority one rating when all proposed projects had last been discussed in the context of the Council's current Corporate Plan and an indicative budget of £1.3M. He advised that in order to delivery the project within the present Council's lifetime and given the anticipated planning issues, which had previously been discussed, it was necessary to now define what members wished to see delivered. It was mentioned that possible conversion of extant buildings, which were in part black stone, would add cost to the project. It was accepted that at the present juncture the Council owned Old Mill site was the most viable development option available,

even though not all the community / recreational facilities first envisaged could be provided due to site constraints.

Following discussion, members **agreed** that within the extant footprint of the buildings on the Old Mill site, they would wish to see the following development – a community hall and associated facilities, two possible business workshops, a horticultural / CAT building, play area and car parking.

It was further agreed, that the Director and the Mayor would again look at the possibility of land at Drumbare Road as to its suitability and availability for outdoor recreational purposes at an early date, so that different development options might be considered by Committee / Council.

It was proposed by Councillor Finlay, seconded by Councillor McCamphill, and **AGREED:**

that the Council's consultants be instructed to prepare the necessary plans and estimate the cost of both the conversion and new build at the Old Mill site, together with the land at Drumbare Road and that planning approval also be sought for the Council's proposals.

**Multi-Use Arena / Megaw Park Amenities Sub-Committee
Meeting No.3
Held Tuesday, 14th October 2008 at 3.30pm in Riada House**

Present: Alderman F Campbell [Chair]
Alderman C Cousley
Alderman J Simpson
Councillor T McKeown
Councillor I Stevenson

In Attendance: Director of Borough Services

1. Project Update

At the behest of the Chair, the Director gave an update regarding the project, explaining that the Committee had originally been convened in order to address a request from Glebeside CA regarding the provision by Council within that community of a multi-use arena and also to consider what might be done to upgrade Megaw Park. It was noted that the Glebeside CA request was not sanctioned in the last Rate Estimates round.

2. Project Definition

The Director explained that in order to deliver a project in respect of Megaw Park within the lifetime of the present Council it was now necessary for members to define what was to be done. He reminded the sub-committee that the Megaw Park project had been given a priority one rating and an indicative budget of £1M, as detailed in the Council's current Corporate Plan.

It was agreed that the more elevated part of the site, adjacent to the cemetery ought to be left undeveloped, as this land might at some future date be required for that purpose, with the boundary black stone wall being re-located.

Following detailed discussion agreement was reached that the following options be worked up, on the understanding that Committee had already been given details as to the cost of upgrading the extant play park –

- Improve entrance and access, provide car parking on the land adjoining the present changing rooms, upgrade park office and changing accommodation and drinking fountain, remove all other park structures, provide 7-a side grass pitch on the land opposite the existing full-size pitch.
- Improve entrance and access, provide car parking on land opposite present changing accommodation, upgrade tennis courts, upgrade park office, changing accommodation and drinking fountain, remove all other park structures, provide 7-a side grass pitch on the land opposite the existing full-size pitch.

It was proposed by Councillor Stevenson, seconded by Councillor McKeown and **AGREED:**

that the Council's consultants be instructed to work up and cost both the above re-development options in respect of Megaw Park and that planning approval also be obtained for the Council's proposals.