

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE PUBLIC SERVICES COMMITTEE OF DUNGANNON
AND SOUTH TYRONE BOROUGH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 23 MARCH 2010 IN
THE COUNCIL OFFICES, CIRCULAR ROAD, DUNGANNON**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillor Gillespie (Chair)

Councillors Brush, Cavanagh (7.34 pm),
Greenaway, McLarnon, Mulligan

OFFICERS PRESENT: M Edgar, Biodiversity Officer (BDO)
J McClelland, Director of Building Control (DBC)
F McClements, Acting Director of Environmental
Health (ADEH)
B McMinn, Director of Technical Services (DTS)
L Marshall (Secretariat)
Y Zellmann, Agenda 21 Co-Ordinator (A21)

APOLOGIES: Councillors R Burton, Gildernew and Reid

The meeting started at 7.30 pm.

1 CHANGE TO ORDER OF AGENDA

Resolved That report of Director of Building Control be taken first.

2 BUILDING CONTROL

The report (appendix 1) of the Director of Building Control was presented reference being made to the undernoted:

2.1 Refusals

The Director of Building Control advised that as further information required had not been received he recommended refusal of the applications as listed on appendix 2.

2.2 Provision of information to Land and Property Services (LPS)

DBC and Members discussed possibility of Building Control staff inspecting domestic properties for LPS. DBC advised that the difficulty with inspecting domestic properties is that most are unoccupied during the day and out of hours working would be required.

Members felt that this is a further opportunity to generate rates currently not being paid to the Council and assistance should be given to LPS.

DBC advised that a meeting has been arranged with LPS to further discuss the level of assistance that could be given by Council.

Proposed by Councillor Brush
Seconded by Councillor Mulligan and

Resolved That it be recommended to the Council that the Director of Building Control meet with Land and Property Services to discuss the type of assistance that could be provided by Council and report back to this Committee.

2.3 Adoption of Report

Proposed by Councillor Brush
Seconded by Councillor Mulligan and

Resolved That it be recommended to the Council that the report of the Director of Building Control be adopted, and that all recommendations, subject to the foregoing, be approved.

(J McClelland left the meeting at 7.35 pm)

3 TECHNICAL SERVICES

The report (appendix 3) and addendum (appendix 4) of the Director of Technical Services were presented reference being made to the undernoted:

3.1 Road Nameplates

DTS reported continued vandalism to road nameplates throughout the Borough. A number of nameplates have also been lost or damaged by contractors working on A4.

Members felt that the contractor should be held liable for replacing nameplates damaged through work on the A4. Members advised that the public do appreciate the signage and that the cost of vandalism to these signs should be highlighted through the press.

3.2 Increase in Commercial Waste Charges

DTS circulated addendum detailing an increase in commercial waste charges, this is as a result of increased Landfill Tax and gate costs. DTS advised Members that the increased charges are still lower than those of neighbouring Councils.

3.3 Role of NIEA at Tullyvar

Members raised concerns regarding the role and responsibility of NIEA at Tullyvar. It was felt that landfill sites are an easy target for the constantly changing standards and procedures required by the NIEA and Members requested that a meeting be held with the Minister for the Environment to discuss concerns.

3.4 Adoption of Report and Addendum

Proposed by Councillor Brush
Seconded by Councillor Mulligan and

Resolved That it be recommended to the Council that the report and addendum of the Director of Technical Services be adopted, and that all recommendations, subject to the foregoing be approved.

4 TULLYVAR UPDATE

Members were updated on Tullyvar as per report of Director of Technical Services (appendix 3).

5 ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

The report (appendix 5) of the Acting Director of Environmental Health was presented reference being made to the undernoted:

5.1 Home Safety

Members referred to the Southern Safer Homes initiative and the role of the Home Safety Officer. Members felt this is a tremendous project and deserves the support of Council. Members also spoke of the importance of the relevant agencies sharing information.

5.2 Adoption of Report

Proposed by Councillor Brush
Seconded by Councillor Cavanagh and

Resolved That it be recommended to the Council that the report of the Acting Director of Environmental Health be adopted, and that all recommendations, subject to the foregoing, be approved.

6 AGENDA 21

The report (appendix 6) of the Agenda 21 Co-ordinator was presented reference being made to the undernoted:

6.1 South Tyrone Biodiversity Action Plan

BDO made presentation to Members on the biodiversity action plan for South Tyrone. The plan focuses on a range of proposed activities to help protect six selected local priority species and four wider natural habitats.

Members discussed the biodiversity action plan and made the following suggestions for inclusion:

- Locate a butterfly bank at Dungannon Park
- Identify old coppices in Borough
- Propagate Irish Whitebeam not only through schools, but also at a suitable Council site
- Work to revive species of Corncrake and Curlew through actions in grassland and wetland habitats.

Resolved That it be recommended to the Council to incorporate Members comments into the South Tyrone Biodiversity Action Plan and adopt as a Council programme.

6.2 Allotments and Community Growing

A21 Co-Ordinator advised that Landfill Tax funding application has been completed for the scheme at Ballygawley - this is for a proposed nature garden and walk with community growing spaces.

In relation to the Council allotments project in Dungannon the A21 Co-Ordinator advised that prior to completing application for funding a meeting with Voluntary Convenor of the Allotments Regeneration Initiative will take place later this week at the proposed site (Nunnery Hill, Dungannon Park) to discuss its feasibility.

Progression of both these projects is subject to adequate funding being obtained.

6.3 Adoption of Report

Proposed by Councillor McLarnon
Seconded by Councillor Cavanagh and

Resolved That it be recommended to the Council that the report of the Agenda 21 Co-Ordinator be adopted, and that all recommendations, subject to the foregoing, be approved.

7 DURATION OF MEETING

The meeting was called for 7.30 pm and ended at 8.34 pm.

MAYOR_____

CHIEF EXECUTIVE _____
(Acting)