

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE PUBLIC SERVICES COMMITTEE OF
DUNGANNON AND SOUTH TYRONE BOROUGH COUNCIL HELD ON
TUESDAY 28 OCTOBER 2008 IN THE COUNCIL OFFICES, CIRCULAR ROAD,
DUNGANNON**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillor Cavanagh (Chair)

Councillors Badger, R Burton, Daly, Gildernew,
Gillespie, Greenaway, McLarnon, Mulligan

OFFICERS PRESENT: J Eagleson, Recycling Officer (RO) 7.32 pm
J McClelland, Director of Building Control
(DBC)
F McClements, Deputy Director of
Environmental Health (DDEH)
R McMinn, Director of Technical Services (DTS)
L Marshall (Secretariat)

OTHERS: Councillor Molloy

The meeting started at 7.30 pm.

1 CHANGE TO ORDER OF AGENDA

Resolved That achieving sustainable councils' presentation be taken
at end of meeting after Agenda 21 report. Report from
Director of Technical Services to be taken first.

2 TECHNICAL SERVICES

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

2.1 TA Garages, Castlehill

Members commented on the amazing transformation at the TA
garages which was completed in house. Members felt that this
property will be a good asset to the Council and will be able to be
used for different events.

Members also highlighted that they had previously been advised that
this building would require demolition.

2.2 Civic Amenity Site Usage

As per report DTS advised Members that civic amenity sites are being
used by residents from other Boroughs to dispose of general household

waste. This practice is particularly evident at both Coalisland and Moy sites.

DTS recommended that users of these sites be asked for evidence of their residency in the Borough to ensure that this Council is not being discredited for dumping waste that has not been generated by its residents.

Although Members felt that it would be remiss for Council to do nothing others felt that illegal dumping may increase and this would be more expensive to deal with.

Resolved That it be recommended to the Council that evidence of residency be asked for from users of all Council civic amenity sites.

2.3 Unearthing of Asbestos

DTS advised of a small quantity of asbestos which was uncovered at Tullyvar.

Members congratulated officers with the speedy and responsible way this matter was dealt with.

2.4 SWaMP

DTS advised that after further meetings regarding the Terms of Agreement he was able to confirm the establishment of a Joint Committee.

Members commented that this flies in the face of advice received from Council Solicitor that a Body Corporate should be set up.

2.5 Proposed Allotments, Main Street, Caledon

DTS advised of letter from Caledon Regeneration Partnership requesting Council to consider leasing lands to the rear of the public toilet facility in the village for use as community allotments.

DTS confirmed he was supportive of this request. Members felt that this is an ideal location in the village and that there is a lot of interest being expressed for such allotments.

2.6 Need a Bag? Week

Members reflected on the success of the "Need a Bag" week which was promoted to reduce reliance on plastic bags. Members felt that

the Assembly should also consider putting a levy on plastic bags in a further attempt to reduce plastic bag usage.

2.7 Yellow Woods Challenge

RO advised that the above competition is being run in December and January and is open to schools to collect Yellow Pages for cash prizes. RO also confirmed that catalogues and phone directories are now accepted in the blue bin.

Members felt it important to provide the public with an update on what can and can't be put in blue bin.

2.8 Commercial Recyclables

DTS referred to recommendation to allow commercial customers to dispose of their recyclable waste at civic amenity sites free of charge.

Members felt this would be another good PR opportunity.

2.9 Coalisland Towpath

In response to Members request, DTS agreed to look at possibility of placing bins and dog foul bins along towpath in Coalisland.

2.10 Illegal Waste Activity

DTS circulated letter from Department of the Environment which referred to providing Councils with a more proactive role in policing illegal waste activity.

Whilst DTS welcomed this move he felt it would require further consideration on who will bear cost etc.

2.11 Members Business Group

Member enquired what the remit of the above group is and the reporting structure for it.

2.12 Adoption of Report

Proposed by Councillor Gildernew
Seconded by Councillor Mulligan and

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

(Mrs Eagleson left the meeting at 8.24 pm)

3 TULLYVAR UPDATE

DTS updated Members on Tullyvar as per his report (appendix 1).

4 BUILDING CONTROL

The report (appendix 2) of the Director of Building Control was presented reference being made to the undernoted:

4.1 Refusals

The Director of Building Control advised that as further information required had not been received he recommended refusal of the applications listed on appendix 3.

4.2 Petroleum Licence

DBC advised that Caledon Estates Co, Caledon should be removed from report.

4.3 Road Signage

Member enquired as to possibility of including "leading to" on current road signage.

DTS advised that this would involve a large amount of work, the danger of missing out townlands between each end of a road and reminded members of the associated cost.

Members were advised of funding available to community groups for signage through the new rural programme and that this may be a way forward.

4.4 Halloween Spooktacular

Member spoke in relation to a church service taking place at the Brethern Church in Thomas Street on Friday night. Member enquired as to the possibility of reserving some car parking spaces for members of the church on Friday night during Council's event.

Members considered options and felt that Council could approach PSNI with a view to reserving parking. Other options included using parking available at Council Offices.

Resolved That Director of Building Control bring this matter to the attention of Director of Development.

4.5 Adoption of Report

Proposed by Councillor Badger
Seconded by Councillor Daly 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.

(Mr McClelland left the meeting at 8.32 pm)

5 ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

The report (appendix 4) of the Director of Environmental Health was presented reference being made to the undernoted:

5.1 Dangerous Building

Member referred to dangerous building at bottom of Annagher Hill, Coalisland. This building is said to be in a dilapidated state, it was also suggested that this building may be listed.

Resolved That it be recommended to Council that Environmental Health and Building Control departments liaise together and follow up on this matter.

5.2 County Court Appeal

DDEH circulated advice from Council Barrister in relation to County Court Appeal for Breslin case. Advice from Barrister states that "In light of the further attendances and the lack of continued odour nuisance, my opinion is that the case now does not enjoy a reasonable prospect of success."

Members felt that it would be very foolish for Council to go against this advice. However, should further occasions of nuisance odour occur, this matter can be brought forward again.

5.3 Dog Kennelling Facilities and Related Services

As per report DDEH highlighted to Members information gathered by DARD on a quarterly basis with regard to functions under the Dogs (NI) Order 1983. Of particular interest was the 83% rehoming rate, the 4th highest in Northern Ireland.

Members congratulated the licensing department and the dog warden on this vastly improved situation.

DDEH drew Members attention to contract for dog kennelling facilities which is due to expire at the end of March 2009 and recommended that tender for new contract be advertised as soon as possible.

Proposed by Councillor Daly
Seconded by Council Mulligan and

Resolved That it be recommended to the Council to move ahead with advertising the tender for dog kennelling facilities.

5.4 Street Trading

Member enquired as to how many street trading licences have been issued for Tamnamore Roundabout.

DDEH undertook to provide Member with this information.

5.5 Adoption of Report

Proposed by Councillor Mulligan
Seconded by Councillor Gildernew and

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

6 AGENDA 21

The report (appendix 5) of the Agenda 21 Co-ordinator was presented reference being made to the undernoted:

6.1 Biodiversity Partnership

Member spoke of creation of butterfly garden in Dungannon Park or other such suitable site.

6.2 Tree Planting Week (1-5 December 2008) – Arbor Day

Members felt that Dungannon Park and Council grounds at Circular Road would be suitable sites for tree planting.

6.3 Correspondence

DDEH referred to correspondence received from a member of the public requesting tree planting along road verges.

DDEH advised that she requested the Biodiversity Officer to investigate this possibility and although it was felt to be a good idea there would

be numerous difficulties in carrying out such tree planting ie. land ownership, responsibility of maintenance, interference with services such as electricity, telephone etc.

6.4 Carbon Offsetting

Member enquired as to whether green foliage and grassland also contribute to carbon offsetting the same way trees do.

DDEH advised that she would get the Biodiversity Officer to investigate this.

6.5 Adoption of Report

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 SUSTAINABLE COUNCILS

DDEH made presentation (appendix 6) on the NILGA project which aims to recruit the 26 Northern Ireland councils and 6 ROI councils to sign a climate change declaration. Councils can then initiate practical action to address climate change which will help to increase the sustainability of Council areas and contribute towards global sustainability. Funding will be provided for projects of action.

DDEH advised that it will be January 2009 before it is known if the bid has been successful.

8 DURATION OF MEETING

The meeting was called for 7.30 pm and ended at 9.15 pm.

MAYOR_____

CHIEF EXECUTIVE _____
(Acting)