

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE, OF DUNGANNON & SOUTH TYRONE BOROUGH COUNCIL, HELD ON MONDAY 19 MAY 2003 IN THE COUNCIL OFFICES, CIRCULAR ROAD DUNGANNON**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** In the Chair, Councillor Mulligan(Chairman)

Councillors Badger, Burton, Canning, Cavanagh, Cuddy, Currie, Daly, Donnelly, Flanagan, Gildernew, Gillespie, Hamilton, Irwin, McGonnell, McGuigan, McLarnon, Molloy and Monteith.

**OFFICERS PRESENT:** Messrs Beattie and Frazer and Mrs E Forde

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Councillor Kevin J Rose JP – New Zealand

The meeting started at 7.30 pm

**1 COUNCILLOR KEVIN J ROSE JP – NEW ZEALAND**

The Chairman and Members of the Committee welcomed Councillor Kevin J Rose JP to the meeting. The Mayor presented Councillor Rose with a plaque and formally welcomed him to the Borough. Councillor Rose thanked the Mayor and Members for their welcome and on behalf of the Mayor of Hawkes Bay New Zealand presented the Mayor with a 'Mati Bowl'.

Councillor Rose left the meeting at 7.40 pm

**2 DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

The report (Appendix 1) of the Director of Development was presented reference being made to the undernoted:

**2.1 TEDI**

In response to Members queries regarding payment of a previously agreed contribution to TEDI the Director of Development reminded Members at the time the contribution was agreed it was subject to TEDI carrying out specific work. The Director advised that to date he had no clarification that this work had been completed and therefore could not authorise the payment. He further stated that he was aware other Councils may have made their contribution and that he was seeking clarification on the matter.

## **2.2 Ulster Way**

The Director of Development advised that further to recommendations detailed in his report additional information would be available following a meeting scheduled to take place in the next two weeks.

## **2.3 Swimming Pool – Replacement Windows**

The Director of Development submitted tender report received from Michael J Herron Architect regarding Replacement Curtain Glazing with Photovoltaic Panels at Dungannon Leisure Centre. The Director advised that six tenders had been submitted ranging from £58,727 to £102,000 and that £100,000 capital expenditure had been allocated in the budget. The Director on advice from the Architect recommended that the tender received from Coulter Windows Ltd for £58,727 be accepted.

Proposed by Councillor Cuddy  
Seconded by Councillor Burton and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to the Council that the recommendation of the Director be accepted.

## **2.4 Access to Countryside – Ballysaggart**

The Director of Development sought permission to proceed with the provision of a walkway at Ballysaggart. Members raised concerns regarding the lack of open space for play at new housing developments throughout the Borough and suggested that Council carry out a review of the situation.

Proposed by Councillor Canning  
Seconded by Councillor Monteith and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to the Council that the Director of Development

- (i) Proceed with provision of a walkway at Ballysaggart;
- (ii) Investigate the possibility of Council purchasing lands at Moy for provision of play areas;
- (iii) Carry out a review of open space allocated in new housing developments over the past four years.

## **2.5 Drumcoo Playing Fields**

The Director of Development submitted letter dated 14 May 2003 received from Norman Devlin regarding lands adjoining Drumcoo Playing Fields that the Council had hoped to acquire. The letter stated

- (i) that planning permission was being sought by the owners which if granted would considerably increase the land value;
- (ii) Would Council still be interested in acquiring the land at a higher price; and
- (iii) If Council was not going to proceed with the acquisition of the land that the fees of the agent for establishing alternative use would have to be paid by Council.

The Director of Development stated that he would inform Mr Devlin that Council would reconsider their project if alternative use was granted by the Planning Service and that Council would not be liable for fees incurred by the agent for establishing alternative use of the lands.

## **2.6 Castle Hill**

The Director of Development submitted a letter dated 16 May 2003 received from Norman Devlin Estate Agent. The letter requested that Council contact the Valuation and Lands Agency to grant permission for negotiations regarding the leasing of lands at Castle Hill for a period of 25 years with the option of a further 25 years. The Chief Executive requested that it be stated that Council would have a preference to obtain a lease for 99 years.

Proposed by Councillor Molloy  
Seconded by Councillor Cavanagh and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to the Council that the Director of Development write to the Valuation & Lands Agency granting permission for negotiations regarding leasing of lands at Castle Hill to proceed.

The Chief Executive advised that a Special Meeting of Council had been arranged for 27 May 2003 at 7.30 pm at which Mrs Ann Given, Environmental and Heritage Service, Historic Monuments and Buildings would address members on the archaeological importance of Castle Hill. He further advised that a Special meeting of the Development Committee would follow.

## **2.7 Return of the Earls**

It was reported that Donegal Council had now appointed an Officer to work with Council on Cross Border projects through the Return of the Earls programme. It was further advised that the Achievers Awards nominations had been considered and that a number of events were being planned within the Borough for August and September.

## **2.8 APPROVALS**

### **Financial Approvals**

The Director of Development in addition to financial approvals detailed in his report recommended the undernoted:

- Dungannon Regeneration Partnership - up to £3000 be allocated to establish a web site. The Chief Executive stressed the importance of Dungannon Regeneration Partnership making contact with the Head of Finance prior to establishing a site in order that their site be linked to the Council's which was currently under construction.

Proposed by Councillor Cuddy  
Seconded by Councillor Molloy and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to the Council that the aforementioned funding subject to the foregoing, as recommended by the Director of Development be approved.

## **2.9 CORRESPONDENCE**

### **2.9.1 Into The West**

The Director of Development submitted invoice for £1629.73 received from Fermanagh District Council regarding Councils contribution to professional fees for Into the West VFM Review. The Director advised that the sum requested had been previously agreed at Committee and recommended that Council proceed with payment.

Proposed by Councillor Cavanagh  
Seconded by Councillor Burton and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to the Council that the recommendation of the Director be accepted.

### **2.9.2 Dungannon Regeneration Partnership**

The Director of Development recommended payment of expenditure detailed below totalling £856.58. The expenditure had been approved by Dungannon Regeneration Partnership in respect of Measure 2.11 Town Centre Reinvigoration.

- Tyrone Courier – Full colour advertisement - £621.58
- Morton Newspapers – Full colour advertisement - £235.00

Proposed by Councillor Cavanagh  
Seconded by Councillor Monteith and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to the Council that the recommendation of the Director be accepted.

### **2.9.3 Townlands Art & Oak Project**

The Director of Development reported that an 'Expression of Interest' application made to the Creativity Seed Fund had not been successful and that funding would have to be sought from other sources eg Arts Council or Awards for All. Members stressed the importance of primary school children being involved as had been previously agreed by Council. It was also suggested that secondary schools be invited to participate in any forthcoming schemes.

(Councillor Currie left the meeting at 8.20 pm)

### **2.9.4 Flavour of Tyrone**

The Director of Development outlined recommendations in his report regarding the retention of services provided by Dungannon Enterprise Centre concerning Flavour of Tyrone and Business/Craft Programmes. Members voiced concerns regarding the Human Resource Manager carrying out an evaluation of the post when Council was not the employing authority and that the services provided by Dungannon Enterprise Centre had initially been anticipated as a short term agreement and had now evolved into a third year. The Director advised that Council wished to evaluate the post and advised that an extensive service was being delivered.

(Councillor Currie returned to the meeting at 8.25 pm)

## **2.10 Miscellaneous**

### **2.10.1 Ballygawley Road Community Association**

The Director of Development submitted a letter dated 7 April 2003 received from Ballygawley Road Community Association. The letter extended thanks and appreciation to Council staff for their attendance at a Public Information meeting held on Tuesday 4 March 2003 in the Children's Centre, Ballysaggard Business Complex, Dungannon.

### **2.10.2 Lough Neagh/Lower Bann Advisory Committee**

The Director of Development submitted a letter dated 2 May 2003 received from Lough Neagh/Lower Bann Advisory Committee. The letter highlighted administration problems being experienced by the Advisory Committee due to the sickness absence of their Administration Officer. In order to 'buy in' administration cover for duration of the sick leave the Advisory Committee advised that DCAL had agreed to contribute 50% of costs and in order to make up the deficit requested that each Council pay £56 per month for a three month period, followed by £28 per month. The Director of Development advised that he was seeking clarification from other Councils before recommending payment of the additional costs.

### **2.10.3 Valuation and Lands Agency**

The Director of Development submitted a letter dated 29 April 2003 received from the Valuation and Lands Agency. The letter advised of an increase in charges, the daily charge rate will now range from £320 to £615 per day, depending on the grade of valuer involved. The comparable range in 2002/2003 was £315 to £600 per day.

### **2.10.4 Clogher Valley PreSchool Playgroup**

The Director of Development submitted a letter dated 28 April 2003 received from Clogher Valley PreSchool Playgroup. The letter requested that as previously agreed by Council a contribution of £49,000 be paid over a two year period for development of the former workhouse building in Clogher. Members were reminded that Council had previously agreed to make the aforementioned contribution but following storm damage to the building the project had been halted. The Director in response to Members concerns stated that Council would need Department approval

for payment of the contribution and advised that he would investigate the request with the group and bring a recommendation to a future meeting.

#### **2.10.5 Dungannon Swifts Football Club**

The Director of Development submitted a letter received from Dungannon Swifts Football Club. The letter requested that Council take a table at a dinner being held on Saturday 7 June 2003 to mark the occasion of the club being promoted to the Irish Football League Premiership.

Proposed by Councillor Currie  
Seconded by Councillor Hamilton and

**Resolved** That a table of ten be purchased at the Dungannon Swifts Football Club celebratory dinner being held on Saturday 7 June 2003.

#### **2.10.6 Clare Tourism Conference**

The Director of Development submitted information regarding the 15<sup>th</sup> National Clare Tourism conference scheduled to be held on the 28 & 29 November 2003 at the Falls Hotel, Ennistymon, Co Clare, Eire. Marked Read.

#### **2.10.7 Dr Douglas Hyde Conference 2003**

The Director of Development submitted information regarding the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Dr Douglas Hyde conference scheduled to be held on the 18, 19 & 20 July 2003 in Co Roscommon, Eire. Members voiced concerns over attendance at conferences in general and the relevance of their programme content.

#### **2.10.8 Staten Island, New York Business Trip**

The Director of Development reported that the trip had been very successful and the business representatives who attended were pleased with the business contacts and orders they had secured. He further advised that a presentation would be made to a future Development meeting.

### **2.10.9 SELB – Review of Concessionary Transport Arrangements**

The Director of Development tabled a summary of findings regarding the SELB review of Concessionary Transport Arrangements and advised that Public Information Meetings regarding the issue were being held on 22 May 2003 at East Tyrone College of Further & Higher Education at 11.00 am and 7.00 pm. Members raised concerns regarding the issue of withdrawal of school buses and the dangerous it would pose for children crossing roads. It was

Proposed by Councillor McGonnell  
Seconded by Councillor Monteith and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to the Council

- (i) That the Chief Executive write to the Southern Education and Library Board advising that Council are opposed to removal of existing transport arrangements and would request that the SELB keep status quo.
- (ii) That the Director of Development make formal representation at the Public Information Meeting regarding the Review of Concessionary Transport Arrangements.

### **2.10.10 DRD Water Service - Consultation on Water & Sewage**

It was brought to Members attention that the DRD Water Service had arranged a Public Information Meeting regarding the Consultation on Water & Sewage. The meeting is to be held on Tuesday 22 May 2003 in the Clogher Valley Rural Centre. The Chief Executive advised that the Director of Environmental Health would be in attendance.

### **2.10.11 UPDATE**

The Director of Development advised that the fifth issue of Update had been delivered to all households in the Borough. Members commended staff on the quality of the publication.



### **2.10.12 Tyrone Milk Cup Reception**

The Director of Development advised that there may be a difficulty with Omagh District Council hosting the 2003 Tyrone Milk Cup Reception as scheduled and recommended that if required the reception be held in Dungannon.

Proposed by Councillor McGonnell  
Seconded by Councillor Burton and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to the Council that the recommendation of the Director be accepted.

### **3 ADOPTION OF REPORT**

Proposed by Councillor Currie  
Seconded by Councillor Gildernew and

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

### **4 DURATION OF MEETING**

The meeting commenced at 7.30 pm and ended at 9.03 pm.