

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE OF DUNGANNON & SOUTH TYRONE BOROUGH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 7 SEPTEMBER 2010

MEMBERS PRESENT: In the Chair, Councillor Hamilton, Chair

Councillors Daly, Donnelly, McGonnell, McLarnon, Monteith and O'Neill

OTHERS: Councillors Cuddy and McGuigan

OFFICERS: Mr Frazer, Acting Chief Executive
Mr McCreedy, Urban Regeneration Manager
Mrs Smith, Council Business Manager

IN ATTENDANCE: **Representatives of Dungannon Traders Association**
Mr McCrystal, Chair
Mr Mohan, Vice Chair
Ms Campbell, Secretary
Mr Hall, Treasurer
Ms Mortimer
Ms McCammon

The meeting commenced at 7.30 pm

1 DUNGANNON TRADERS ASSOCIATION

The Chair stated that the meeting was called to receive presentation from Dungannon Traders Association after which there would be an opportunity for discussion. Once the representatives left the committee would make recommendation on way forward.

Councillor Cuddy declared an interest being a member of Dungannon Traders Association.

The Chair welcomed the delegation and invited them to make their presentation. With the use of a powerpoint presentation (appendix 1) the representatives explained the objectives of the association, the importance of Dungannon town centre, weaknesses identified, threats, results of town centre business audit and the Traders initial proposal to Council was to deal with festive lighting and condition of shop frontages. Given the timing there was a need to concentrate on festive lighting. The proposal for festive lighting was as detailed in public realm scheme at a cost of £90,000. Concern expressed how principal town perceived by people who come in to it and the lack of investment

The Acting Chief Executive welcomed the formation of the Traders Association and felt that there was a need to bring forward retail development strategy to maximum for example Llinen Green, Tesco's, Oaks Centre and town centre. He also stated that the Council has committed large financial spend in Dungannon ie Castlehill and Market Square. Within the Public Realm Scheme new festive lighting was proposed but, due to DSD budget constraints, the Public Realm Scheme had been put on hold this year. Members stated that the current system is not fit for purpose and in response to queries the Acting Chief Executive stated that the last capital investment in Dungannon Town festive lights was 15 years ago with ongoing cost of £45,000 per annum for repairing, erecting and utility charges. Cost of flowers in and around the town was £12,500 annually.

Breakdown of £45,000 to be provided and Director of Technical Services to bring report to Council on what is outstanding to complete Christmas tree.

For comparison purposes expenditure on festive lights to be obtained from neighbouring Councils.

Dungannon Traders Association to provide breakdown of proposal for £90,000 expenditure on festive lights

Officers to bring forward options to Council meeting next Monday evening ie leasing scheme for lights etc.

Following discussion the Chair thanked the delegation following which they left the meeting at 8.20 pm.

After further discussion

Proposed by Councillor Daly
Seconded by Councillor McLarnon and

Resolved That it be recommended to the Council to agree in principle with the need to improve the festive lighting for Dungannon town and that information as discussed above be brought forward to Council meeting on Monday 13 September 2010.

2 DURATION OF MEETING

The meeting was called for 7.30 pm and ended at 8.30 pm.

MAYOR _____

CHIEF EXECUTIVE _____
(Acting)