

ANTRIM BOROUGH COUNCIL

Minutes of the proceedings of a Meeting of the **Environment and Borough Services Committee** of Antrim Borough Council held in The Round Tower Chamber, Antrim Civic Centre, 50 Stiles Way, Antrim on **Thursday 18 March 2010** at **10 am**.

In The Chair : Alderman M Rea

Committee Members Present : Aldermen -

S Dunlop
R J Loughran

Councillors -

A D Cochrane-Watson
A A Lawther
M Lucas
D Ritchie

In Attendance : Director of Corporate Services
Director of Development & Leisure
Assistant Director - Property Services
Public Relations Manager
Committee Secretary (*K Smyth*)

Apologies : None

HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

LETTER: No. 2 had been circulated.

RECOMMENDED: unanimously, that an officer be asked to represent Council at the ***Conference Event*** aimed at tackling particular issues faced by homeless and organised by 'Enhancing Care of the Homeless (ECHO) on **Wednesday 21 April 2010 from 9.15am to 1pm in the Dunadry Hotel, Antrim** - delegate attendance being free-of-charge.

ENHANCING CARE OF THE HOMELESS (ECHO)

Councillors Cochrane-Watson and Lucas joined the Meeting at this point.

OPERATIONAL SERVICES

REPORT: No. 3 had been circulated.

RECOMMENDED: approval for missed bin data to be monitored for a further three months with an update report being presented to Committee in due course. Officers to identify any repeated missed bin patterns and look for fast and effective solutions.

MISSED BIN PROCEDURE

REPORT: No. 4 had been circulated.

RECOMMENDED: approval for the procurement of the treatment contract for street sweeping waste from the Council's mechanical sweepers with Irish Waste Services, Belfast, through the Belfast City Council contract at a rate of £42 per tonne from 1 April 2010 until 30 June 2011.

STREET SWEEPINGS TREATMENT CONTRACT

Alderman Loughran joined the Meeting at this point.

REPORT: No. 5 had been circulated.

NOTED: Potential for grant aid to be clarified.

RECOMMENDED: to approve the introduction of food waste only collections for rural areas, financial provision having been made for the service within the 2010/11 estimates, subject to the finalisation of bin collection routes and in particular the distinction between rural and urban routes.

**FOOD WASTE
COLLECTION
SERVICE TO RURAL
PROPERTIES**

REPORT: No. 6 had been circulated, updating Committee on refuse collection and street cleansing services including the impact of the forthcoming public holidays and alternative service provision.

The Director of Development and Leisure clarified the rationale behind the proposal to purchase a second-hand vehicle and the procurement exercise to be applied.

NOTED: the Director undertook to ensure that the report provided to the April Monthly Environment and Borough Services Committee Meeting contained a full analysis of the costs / specifications associated with the procurement of a second-hand vehicle, including a comparative assessment of hire costs.

**CLEANSING
UPDATE**

PROPERTY SERVICES

REPORT: No. 8 had been circulated for Members' information.

RECOMMENDED: that Clear Channel be invited to address the Environment and Borough Services Committee at a future Meeting to discuss Bus Shelter priorities and potential relocations.

NOTED:

- Members agreed to provide information on those shelters which they judged were not being well used to Graham Reid prior to the above Meeting to enable a list to be compiled;
- Officers to seek outstanding information from Translink as necessary;
- A meeting with Mervyn Orr from Roads Service had been scheduled for Friday 16 April 2010 at 10am on site in Crumlin.

At this point the Chairman referred to Mrs Denise Waddell's presence in the Chamber and took the opportunity to welcome her on her return from sick leave.

**BUS SHELTERS:
UPDATE**

**COMMITTEE
SECRETARY**

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

REPORT: No. 9 had been circulated.

RECOMMENDED: that Council delegates Full Powers *in accordance with the provisions of Section 18 (1) of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 1972* to the April Monthly Environment and Borough Services Committee Meeting to corporately consider and respond to the DoE Consultation entitled 'Draft Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Bill', the closing date for comments being 23 April 2010.

RECOMMENDED: on the proposal of Councillor Ritchie, seconded by Councillor Cochrane-Watson, that Council adopt the Minutes of a Meeting of the Bonfire Sub-Group held on 20 January 2010, copies of which had been circulated.

NOTED: an update on Community Engagement, particularly the Peace III funding, would be provided following the interval.

REPORT: No. 11 had been circulated.

RECOMMENDED: that the report on Article 29 - The Dogs (Northern Ireland) Order 1983 be deferred to afford officers the opportunity of obtaining further information as requested by Members.

RECOMMENDED: on the proposal of Councillor Lawther, seconded by Alderman Dunlop, to adopt the Minutes of the Waste Management Sub-Group Meeting held on Thursday 11 February 2010, copies of which had been circulated for Members' information.

**CONSULTATION:
DRAFT CLEAN
NEIGHBOURHOODS
AND ENVIRONMENT
BILL**

**MINUTES OF
BONFIRE
SUB-GROUP
MEETING OF
20 JANUARY 2010**

**THE DOGS
(NORTHERN
IRELAND) ORDER
1983 :
ARTICLE 29**

**MINUTES OF
WASTE
MANAGEMENT
SUB-GROUP
MEETING OF 11
FEBRUARY 2010**

NOTED: the Chairman highlighted a number of information items enclosed with the Agenda, including -

**INFORMATION
ITEMS**

- Progress update: Antrim Town Wall.
- Council's participation in WWF's Earth Hour Initiative - Saturday 27 March 2010.
- Court Proceedings: Prosecutions - Intoxicating Liquor in a designated place and noise abatement and prohibition notice.
- DoE correspondence: Closure of Whitehill Landfill Site - *Council was currently consulting with other affected Councils and Committee would be kept informed going forward.*

ANY OTHER RELEVANT BUSINESS

NOTED: receipt of DoE Consultation Document entitled 'The Legal Definition of Waste and its Application'. Council's draft response, copies as tabled, would be presented to the Public Services Committee Meeting on 25 March 2010 for corporate approval, the deadline for submissions being 12 April 2010.

**CONSULTATION:
THE LEGAL
DEFINITION OF
WASTE AND ITS
APPLICATION**

INTERVAL

There was a break at 11am with the Meeting reconvening at 11.20am. All present prior to the interval resumed their seats.

Pages 3-4 of the Minutes of the Bonfire Sub-Group Meeting held on 20 January 2010 refer.

**COMMUNITY
GROUPS
DIRECTORY**

The Director of Development and Leisure elaborated on issues being dealt with via the Good Relations Officer, particularly Peace III Projects - eligibility, funding, training, modular events, assessment, accreditation and deadlines.

NOTED: Community Services Officers to -

- review the Community Directory ensuring information is up to date on groups;
- provide regular updates to the relevant Committee on Peace III Project participation going forward.

The Chairman highlighted that going forward the Good Relations Officer would be working with the Sub-Committee in addition to the work by Environmental Health Officers.

RESOLVED: on the proposal of Alderman Loughran, seconded by Councillor Ritchie, that the remainder of Committee business be taken In Confidence.

ITEMS IN CONFIDENCE

PROPERTY SERVICES

TABLED: Confidential Report.

The Assistant Director - Property Services spoke to the progress report updating Committee on the Geothermal Energy Initiative. The costs, benefits and risks were highlighted including the outstanding issues to be resolved, namely -

- The authority of the Council to apply for funding and award such funding to a private company (i.e. GT Energy to assist in defraying the costs of the feasibility study);
- The authority of the Council to assist a private company with an energy feasibility study without challenge from an alternative energy supplier.

Members queried the potential for Geothermal Energy in Newtownabbey including Transition Committee / RPA implications and officers responded accordingly.

RECOMMENDED: that the Geothermal Energy Initiative Strategic Alliance be deferred for consideration at the April Environment and Borough Services Committee Meeting when it was anticipated officers would be in receipt of outstanding legal information.

There being no further business the Meeting concluded at 11.50am.

Mayor

Chief Executive

Date

**GEOTHERMAL
ENERGY
INITIATIVE:
STRATEGIC
ALLIANCE**