

ANTRIM BOROUGH COUNCIL

Minutes of the proceedings of the **Annual Meeting** of Antrim Borough Council held in the Round Tower Chamber, Antrim Civic Centre, 50 Stiles Way, Antrim on **Thursday 10 June 2010** at **1 pm**.

In the Chair : Councillor A D Cochrane-Watson, Outgoing Mayor
Councillor P Lewis, Incoming Mayor

Members Present : Aldermen -

S Dunlop
R J Loughran
M Rea

Councillors -

A K Brady
T A Burns
T Clarke
H J Cushinan
B Graham
O C J Keenan
N Kelly
A A Lawther
A Logue
M Lucas
P Michael
S Nicholl
D Ritchie
J Smyth

In Attendance : Chief Executive
Director of Corporate Services
Director of Development and Leisure
Public Relations Manager
Committee Secretary (*M Aiken*)

Apologies : None

MAYOR'S THANKS

The Mayor opened the Meeting by welcoming two new Council Members, Ulster Unionist Councillor Paul Michael and Alliance Councillor Neil Kelly, who had been co-opted to fill vacancies created by the resignation of Danny Kinahan and David Ford respectively. He said it had been a great honour and privilege to serve as First Citizen of the Borough of Antrim and he thanked fellow Members for their support throughout the past year, particularly the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Alan Lawther who had so ably deputised for him when required; also former Mayors for their words of advice. Council's Chief Executive and staff at all levels were thanked for their help and support throughout the year and the Mayor also thanked his wife, Heather and family for their support.

The Mayor highlighted some of the events which had taken place in the Borough, naming in particular the opening of three play parks - John Street, Randalstown; Dunlop Park, Muckamore and Steeple Play Area on Stiles Way - he was delighted to be joined by two former Councillors James Graham and Wilson Clyde at the opening of the play park in Randalstown.

The success of the restoration of the Old Courthouse and the programme of opening events was also highlighted. Other items of particular note included the reinstatement of Antrim Castle Walls and the granting of the Freedom of the Borough to Dr Roelof Schierbeek CBE earlier in the year.

In conclusion the Mayor paid tribute to the Members, staff and all involved for yet another successful Antrim Community Excellence Awards event held at The Dunadry on Tuesday 8 June. He thanked TESCO for their sponsorship and the Resources Sub-Committee, Chaired by Councillor Smyth, which was responsible for assessing the nominations.

Councillor Alan Lawther endorsed the Mayor's sentiments, added his thanks for the opportunity of serving as Deputy Mayor for the past year and for the advice and support received from the Mayor.

The other political parties congratulated Councillor Cochrane-Watson on the way in which he had conducted his Mayoral duties and the business of Council during his year in office. Tributes were also paid to the Deputy Mayor for his role during the past year.

AGENDA ITEMS

AGREED: unanimously that the mode of voting throughout the course of the Meeting be on a majority vote by show of hands.

MODE OF VOTING THROUGHOUT ANNUAL MEETING

Councillor Cochrane-Watson invited nominations for Mayor for the incoming year.

ELECTION OF MAYOR

Councillor Lewis was proposed by Councillor Clarke seconded by Alderman Rea.

There being no other nominations **Councillor Lewis** was declared elected as **Mayor** for the incoming year and assumed the Chair. She expressed thanks and delight at being the first female appointed to serve as First Citizen of the Borough and pledged her commitment to serve the community to the best of her ability. Despite the present economic challenges she was determined to give the leadership that the community deserved and sent out a call for more women to become involved in politics.

The Mayor concluded by thanking her party colleagues, her husband Ian, their children, friends and family for all their help and support.

All the other political parties congratulated Councillor Lewis on her election.

Nominations were sought for Deputy Mayor for the incoming year.

ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR

Councillor Lawther was proposed by Councillor Keenan seconded by Councillor Kelly.

Councillor Logue was proposed by Councillor Cushinan but this failed to find a seconder.

Councillor Ritchie was proposed by Alderman Rea seconded by Councillor Cochrane-Watson.

A vote was taken following which, on a majority vote of 7/5 in favour, **Councillor Alan Lawther** was declared **Deputy Mayor** for the incoming year. He thanked Members for his re-election and said he would continue to endeavour to carry out his duties to the best of his ability.

RESOLVED: unanimously on the proposal of Councillor Keenan seconded by Councillor Graham that the structure for Standing Committees continue as heretofore with each political party nominating Members to the respective Committees on a proportional basis to Membership on the Council, namely, 3 DUP, 3 UUP, 2 SF, 2 Alliance, 1 SDLP, and 1 TUV.

STRUCTURE FOR STANDING COMMITTEES

The Meeting adjourned for refreshments at 1.25 pm and recommenced at 2 pm with all Members resuming their seats.

Nominations to the Standing committees were notified to the Chief Executive as follows -

NOMINATIONS TO STANDING COMMITTEES

- **COMMUNITY PLANNING COMMITTEE** (*19 Members*)
With delegated powers for Committee remit and urgent or emergency business

- **DEVELOPMENT AND LEISURE COMMITTEE**
(*12 Members*)

Aldermen - Dunlop
Loughran

Councillors - Clarke
Cochrane-Watson
Cushinan
Graham
Kelly
Lawther
Logue
Lucas
Nicholl
Ritchie

- **ENVIRONMENT AND BOROUGH SERVICES COMMITTEE**
(12 Members)

- Aldermen - Dunlop
Loughran
Rea
- Councillors - Brady
Cochrane-Watson
Graham
Keenan
Kelly
Logue
Lucas
Ritchie
Smyth

**NOMINATIONS TO
STANDING
COMMITTEES**
(continued)

- **RESOURCES COMMITTEE**
(12 Members)

- Aldermen - Loughran
Rea
- Councillors - Brady
Clarke
Cushinan
Keenan
Lawther
Lewis
Lucas
Michael
Ritchie
Smyth

- **PUBLIC SERVICES COMMITTEE** (19 Members)
With delegated powers for Committee remit and urgent or emergency business

Nominations were sought for the appointment of Committee Chairs.

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Community Planning Committee - Chair

Councillor Keenan was proposed by Alderman Rea seconded by Councillor Kelly.

There being no other nominations, Councillor **Keenan** was declared Chair of the Community Planning Committee.

Development and Leisure Committee - Chair

Councillor Nicholl was proposed by Councillor Cochrane-Watson seconded by Councillor Ritchie

Alderman Dunlop was proposed by Councillor Clarke seconded by Councillor Graham

Alderman **Dunlop** was declared Chair of the Development and Leisure Committee on a vote of 11/7 in favour.

Resources Committee - Chair

Councillor Smyth was proposed by Councillor Clarke seconded by Councillor Graham

Councillor Michael was proposed by Councillor Nicholl seconded by Councillor Cochrane-Watson

A recorded vote requested by Councillor Cochrane-Watson was as follows –

Those in favour of Councillor Smyth (13) –

Aldermen - Dunlop
Loughran

Councillors - Brady
Burns
Clarke
Cushinan
Graham
Keenan
Kelly
Lawther

Lewis
Logue
Smyth

**APPOINTMENT OF
COMMITTEE CHAIRS**
(continued)

Those in favour of Councillor Michael (4) –

Alderman - Rea
Councillors - Cochrane-Watson
Nicholl
Ritchie

Councillor **Smyth** was declared Chair of the Resources Committee.

Environment and Borough Services Committee - Chair

Alderman Rea was proposed by Councillor Keenan seconded by Councillor Ritchie

There being no other nominations, Alderman **Rea** was declared Chair of the Environment and Borough Services Committee.

Public Services Committee - Chair

Councillor Lucas was proposed by Councillor Clarke seconded by Councillor Graham

Councillor Cochrane-Watson was proposed by Councillor Ritchie but Councillor Cochrane-Watson declined

Councillor Cushman was proposed by Councillor Logue seconded by Councillor Keenan

On a vote of 8/7 in favour, Councillor **Cushman** was declared Chair of the Public Services Committee.

Nominations were sought for the appointment of Committee Vice-Chairs.

**APPOINTMENT OF
COMMITTEE
VICE-CHAIRS**

Community Planning Committee - Vice-Chair

Councillor Graham was proposed by Councillor Clarke seconded by Alderman Dunlop

Councillor Logue was proposed by Councillor Keenan seconded by Councillor Cushinan

On a vote of 8/6 in favour Councillor **Logue** was declared Vice-Chair of the Community Planning Committee.

Development and Leisure Committee - Vice-Chair

Alderman Loughran was proposed by Councillor Burns seconded by Councillor Logue

Councillor Nicholl was proposed by Councillor Clarke but Councillor Nicholl declined

There being no other nominations, Alderman **Loughran** was declared Vice-Chair of the Development and Leisure Committee.

Resources Committee - Vice-Chair

Councillor Ritchie was proposed by Councillor Cochrane-Watson seconded by Councillor Clarke

There being no other nominations, Councillor **Ritchie** was declared Vice-Chair of the Resources Committee.

Environment and Borough Services Committee - Vice-Chair

Councillor Lucas was proposed by Councillor Clarke seconded by Alderman Dunlop

There being no other nominations, Councillor **Lucas** was declared Vice-Chair of the Environment and Borough Services Committee.

Public Services Committee - Vice-Chair

Councillor Kelly was proposed by Councillor Logue seconded by Councillor Keenan

There being no other nominations, Councillor **Kelly** was declared Vice-Chair of the Public Services Committee.

AGREED: re-election of Councillors **Brady, Cochrane-Watson, Graham,** and **Smyth** with Councillor **Michael** to replace former Councillor Kinahan.

Councillor Cochrane-Watson said he wished to withdraw from serving.

RESOLVED: on the proposal of Alderman Dunlop seconded by Councillor Clarke appointment of Councillor **Smyth**.

AGREED: in order to comply with the requirement of one representative from each political party on the Council, re-election of Alderman **Loughran,** Councillors **Graham** and **Ritchie** with Councillor **Lawther** replacing former Councillor Ford and Sinn Fein to confirm at a later date.

AGREED: re-election of Alderman **Rea** and Councillor **Lawther,** subject to clarification that the Forum was still in existence (*confirmation of which was received at a later date*).

RESOLVED: on the proposal of Councillor Keenan seconded by Councillor Clarke, re-election of Councillors **Burns** and **Lewis** for nomination to serve - (Company limited by guarantee).

(NOTED: Councillor Ritchie served on the Bureau independently of Council.)

**APPOINTMENT OF
COMMITTEE
VICE-CHAIRS
(continued)**

**ANTRIM BOROUGH
ARTS AND
HERITAGE
COMMITTEE**

**FORUM FOR LOCAL
GOVERNMENT AND
THE ARTS**

**ANTRIM BOROUGH
COMMUNITY SAFETY
PARTNERSHIP
(CSP)**

**ANTRIM BOROUGH
COUNTRYSIDE
RECREATION FORUM**

**ANTRIM DISTRICT
CITIZENS' ADVICE
BUREAU
(Company limited by
guarantee)**

AGREED: re-election of Councillor **Cochrane-Watson** and Councillor **Ritchie** for nomination to serve - the two Members to be furnished with further information regarding the Board - (Company limited by guarantee).

BOARD OF ANTRIM ENTERPRISE AGENCY
(Company limited by guarantee)

RESOLVED: on the proposal of Councillor Keenan seconded by Councillor Clarke re-election of Alderman **Dunlop** and Councillor **Ritchie**.

ANTRIM SPORTS ADVISORY ASSOCIATION

RESOLVED: on the proposal of Councillor Clarke seconded by Alderman Rea that Councillors **Keenan**, **Nicholl** and **Smyth** be re-elected for nomination to serve - (Company limited by guarantee.)

ANTRIM TOWNS DEVELOPMENT COMPANY LIMITED
(Company limited by guarantee)

RESOLVED: on the proposal of Councillor Keenan seconded by Councillor Clarke that Councillor **Ritchie** be **re-elected**.

ARTS CARE COMMITTEE OF ANTRIM AREA HOSPITAL

Councillors Michael and Lucas declined proposals for nomination to serve.

BOARD OF BELFAST HILLS PARTNERSHIP
(Company limited by guarantee)

AGREED: on the proposal of Councillor Keenan seconded by Councillor Lawther that Councillor **Kelly** be elected for nomination to serve with Council's Recreation Manager (Development) continuing as observer - (Company limited by guarantee).

RESOLVED: on the proposal of Councillor Keenan seconded by Alderman Loughran that Alderman **Dunlop** be **re-elected**.

CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR ATHLETICS

RESOLVED: on the proposal of Alderman Loughran seconded by Councillor Keenan that Councillor **Michael** replace former Councillor Kinahan.

NORTH EAST PARTNERSHIP

AGREED: in order to comply with the requirement of one representative from each political party on the Council, Councillors **Brady** (SF), **Graham** (DUP), **Lucas** (TUV) and **Kelly** (Alliance) be appointed with UUP and SDLP representation to be notified to Officers later.

**EVENTS AND
FESTIVALS
ADVISORY PANEL**

RESOLVED: on the proposal of Councillor Keenan seconded by Councillor Brady that Councillor **Cushinan** be elected to serve – (Companies limited by guarantee).

**BOARD OF LOUGH
NEAGH / LOWER
BANN PARTNERSHIPS**
*(Companies limited by
guarantee)*

AGREED: unanimously appointments to serve on the Rural Development Programme as follows:

**RURAL
DEVELOPMENT
PROGRAMME**

Local Action Group

Alderman **Rea** and Councillors **Cushinan** and **Lucas**

Statutory Joint Committee

Councillors **Clarke** and **Logue** with Councillor **Michael** replacing former Councillor Kinahan.

Councillor Smyth said he wished to withdraw from serving.

**PEACE III
PROGRAMME**

AGREED: unanimously appointments to serve on the Peace III Programme as follows:

Partnership Board

Councillors **Brady**, **Lewis** and **Nicholl**

Statutory Joint Committee

Councillors **Brady** and **Lewis**.

RESOLVED: on the proposal of Councillor Keenan seconded by Councillor Smyth **re-election** of Councillor **Graham**.

**ANTRIM HOME
ACCIDENT
PREVENTION GROUP**

RESOLVED: on the proposal of Councillor Smyth seconded by Councillor Kelly **re-election** of Alderman **Rea** and Councillor **Keenan** with Councillor **Michael** as **substitute**.

**ARC21 -
EASTERN REGION
WASTE
MANAGEMENT
GROUP FORUM**

RESOLVED: on the proposal of Councillor Smyth seconded by Councillor Kelly **re-election** of Aldermen **Dunlop** and **Loughran**, Councillors **Cochrane-Watson** and **Logue**, with **Councillor Keenan** replacing **Councillor Nicholl** who unfortunately had failed to receive notice of meetings.

**FUEL POVERTY
STEERING GROUP**

RESOLVED: on the proposal of Councillor Keenan seconded by Councillor Smyth that Aldermen **Loughran** and **Rea** be **re-elected**.

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT
PARTNERSHIP ON
TRAVELLERS' ISSUES**

RESOLVED: on the proposal of Councillor Clarke seconded by Councillor Kelly **re-election** of Councillors **Keenan** and **Lucas** with Councillor **Ritchie** as **reserve**.

**NORTH EASTERN
GROUP BUILDING
CONTROL
COMMITTEE**

RESOLVED: on the proposal of Councillor Clarke seconded by Councillor Keenan **re-election** of Councillors **Graham** and **Ritchie** with Councillor **Keenan** as **reserve**.

**NORTHERN GROUP
ENVIRONMENTAL
HEALTH COMMITTEE**

Councillor Keenan proposed that the Transition Committee continue as previously.

**TRANSITION
COMMITTEE
CONSTITUTION**

Councillor Nicholl proposed that the Transition Committee be stood down pending decision by the Minister regarding the Review of Public Administration.

AGREED: on a vote of 10 in favour that the Transition Committee continue as previously with Membership of Aldermen Loughran and Rea, Councillors Cochrane-Watson, Cushinan, Keenan, Lawther, Lewis and Smyth.

RESOLVED: on the proposal of Councillor Keenan seconded by Councillor Kelly **re-election** of Alderman **Rea**.

**AIRPORT
CONSULTATIVE
FORUM
(BELFAST
INTERNATIONAL
AIRPORT)**

Councillor Logue wished to withdraw from serving.

RESOLVED: on the proposal of Councillor Smyth seconded by Councillor Clarke **re-election** of Alderman **Loughran**, Councillors **Graham, Lawther, Ritchie** and **Smyth** with Councillor **Brady** to replace Councillor Logue.

**ANTRIM AND
DISTRICT ROAD
SAFETY COMMITTEE**

RESOLVED: on the proposal of Councillor Keenan seconded by Councillor Kelly to **re-elect** Aldermen **Dunlop** and **Loughran** and Councillors **Cochrane-Watson** and **Smyth**.

**NATIONAL
ASSOCIATION OF
COUNCILLORS**

RESOLVED: on the proposal of Councillor Keenan seconded by Alderman Loughran that Councillors **Burns** and **Lawther** be **re-elected**.

**NORTHERN
CORRIDOR
RAILWAYS GROUP**

Councillor Cochrane-Watson wished to withdraw from serving.

RESOLVED: on the proposal of Councillor Smyth seconded by Councillor Kelly that Councillor **Keenan** replace Councillor Cochrane-Watson.

**NORTHERN IRELAND
AMENITY COUNCIL**

RESOLVED: on the proposal of Councillor Clarke seconded by Councillor Keenan **re-affirmation** of Alderman **Loughran**.

**NORTHERN IRELAND
HOUSING COUNCIL**

Councillor Clarke withdrew from serving on the Northern Ireland Local Government Association.

The Association's future and continuance of Council's membership were questioned with Members' reservations about serving also being considered.

**NORTHERN IRELAND
LOCAL GOVERNMENT
ASSOCIATION**

From the views and proposals expressed it was

AGREED: that, as it was considered important, and particularly so at the present time, for Council to have a constructive voice on NILGA, Alderman **Loughran** and Councillor **Cushinan** be **re-elected** with Councillor **Nicholl** continuing to serve, Councillor **Smyth** replacing Councillor Clarke and Councillor **Keenan** replacing Councillor Lawther. Members to be kept informed of the position regarding NILGA.

**NORTHERN IRELAND
LOCAL GOVERNMENT
ASSOCIATION**
(continued)

RESOLVED: on the proposal of Councillor Nicholl seconded by Alderman Loughran that Councillor **Michael** be appointed to replace former Councillor Kinahan.

**RESERVE FORCES
AND CADETS
ASSOCIATION FOR
NORTHERN IRELAND**

Re-election of Alderman Rea was proposed by Councillor Keenan seconded by Councillor Smyth.

**SOMME ADVISORY
COUNCIL**

There being no other nominations, Alderman **Rea** was **re-elected**.

AGREED: that correspondence dated 4 June 2010 from the Department of Education be furnished to Members for consideration by the Public Services Committee to further nominate two Members, by 18 June, to enable a new selection process to fill Council's post on the North Eastern Education and Library Board.

**NORTH EASTERN
EDUCATION AND
LIBRARY BOARD**

There being no further business the Meeting concluded at 2.46 pm.

Mayor

Chief Executive

Date
