

LISBURN & CASTLEREAGH CITY COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Special Monthly Meeting of Council held in the Island Civic Centre,
The Island, Lisburn, on Thursday, 9 February, 2017 at 6:00 pm**

PRESENT:

The Right Worshipful the Mayor
Councillor R B Bloomfield MBE

Aldermen W J Dillon MBE, A G Ewart, S P Porter,
G Rice MBE and J Tinsley

Councillors N Anderson, J Baird, R T Beckett, S Carson,
P Catney, D J Craig, A P Ewing, J Gallen, O Gawith,
A Givan, J Gray MBE, A Grehan, B Hanvey, V Kamble,
H Legge, A McIntyre, U Mackin, B Mallon, T Morrow,
John Palmer, L Poots, A Redpath, S Scott and N Trimble

IN ATTENDANCE:

Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council

Chief Executive
Director of Corporate Services
Director of Environmental Services
Director of Leisure & Community Services
Lead Head of Development
Lead Head of Planning and Building Control
Head of Human Resources and Organisation Development
Head of Marketing and Communications (Ms A Goddard)
Head of Finance & IT
Member Services Officer
Attendance Clerk

Commencement of the Meeting

At the commencement of the meeting, The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor B Bloomfield, welcomed those present to the meeting and requested that all mobile phones be switched off or put on silent for the duration of the meeting.

1. **Apologies**

It was agreed to accept apologies for non-attendance at the meeting on behalf of the Deputy Mayor, Alderman S Martin, Aldermen D Drysdale, M Henderson MBE, T Jeffers and W A Leathem and Councillors A Girvin, J McCarthy, T Mitchell and M Tolerton.

Councillor A Givan arrived to the meeting at this point (6.02 pm).

2. **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Corporate Services Committee held on 25 January, 2017

It was proposed by Councillor O Gawith, seconded by Alderman A G Ewart and agreed to adopt the minutes of the special meeting of the Corporate Services Committee held on 25 January, 2017.

Councillor S Carson and the Director of Leisure & Community Services arrived to the meeting at this point (6.03 pm).

4. Report by the Chief Executive

4.1 Draft Estimates of Income and Expenditure for 2017/18 for the Various Departments of the Council

Members were provided with a copy of the draft estimates of income and expenditure for 2017/18 for the various departments of the Council.

The Chairman of the Corporate Services Committee, Councillor O Gawith, made a verbal report in respect of the draft estimates, which had been set in the context of continuing difficult economic conditions, both local and global, and which would have financial implications for the Council's services. Despite this, the Council still aimed to deliver high quality and cost efficient services to reflect the needs of the community.

Councillor O Gawith expressed his thanks to Members, Officers and staff who had participated in the estimates process. In particular, he extended thanks to the Director of Corporate Services, Head of Finance & IT and the Chairmen of each Committee for their commitment during the process, which had allowed the Council to recommend a fair and reasonable rate increase for 2017/18. Councillor Gawith referred to the forthcoming retirement of the Director of Corporate Services and stated that the Council would miss his dry humour, incisive commentary and the help and guidance he had provided to staff and Members alike over the years.

A number of other Members put on record their thanks to the Chief Executive, Directors and all staff involved in the estimates process and concurred with Councillor Gawith's comments regarding the Director of Corporate Services.

It was proposed by Councillor O Gawith, seconded by Councillor B Mallon and unanimously agreed that the Estimates of Income and Expenditure for the year commencing 1 April, 2017 be adopted and that the District Rate for the financial year 2017/18 be set at **21.5300p** in the pound for non-domestic properties, an increase of 0.6084p or 2.91%, and at **0.2885p** in the pound for domestic properties, an increase of 0.0082p or 2.93%.

5. Confidential Business

It was agreed that the report and recommendations of the Chief Executive be adopted, subject to any decisions recorded below.

5. Confidential Business (Contd)

The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor B Bloomfield, advised that the matters contained in the confidential reports would be dealt with “In Committee” due to containing information (a) in relation to which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings; and (b) information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Council holding that information).

“In Committee”

It was proposed by Councillor N Anderson, seconded by Councillor D J Craig and agreed that the items in the Confidential Reports be considered “in committee”, in the absence of members of the press and public being present.

Item for Decision

5.1 Deed of Agreement Pursuant to Section 76 of the Planning Act (Northern Ireland) 2011 between Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and Clanmil Housing Association Limited Relating to Lands Immediately North of Junction of Graham Gardens and Wardsborough Road, Lisburn

Further to the decision of the Planning Committee, at its meeting held on 5 December, 2016, to enter into an Agreement under Section 76 of the Planning Act (Northern Ireland) 2011, under terms which were discussed at that meeting, Members were provided with a copy of the Agreement.

Alderman G Rice pointed out that she had been Chairman of Clanmil Housing Association Limited for approximately 11 years; however, this had not been the case for the last 5 years and she had no current interest in this organisation.

It was proposed by Councillor A Redpath, seconded by Councillor B Mallon and agreed that approval be given to the signing and sealing of the Deed of Agreement by the Chief Executive and The Right Worshipful the Mayor.

Additional Confidential Report

5.2 Request for Office Accommodation by the Department of Finance

The Chief Executive set out in her report, details of a request from the Department of Finance for possible temporary office accommodation at Bradford Court. It was proposed by Councillor J Baird, seconded by Alderman A G Ewart and agreed that, subject to the Department of Finance selecting Bradford Court as its preferred location, the Department’s request for office accommodation be approved and that Officers make the necessary arrangements.

Resumption of Normal Business

It was proposed by Councillor A McIntyre, seconded by Councillor D J Craig and agreed to come out of committee and normal business was resumed.

6. Any Other Business

6.1 Litter Picking on Country Roads
Councillor A Redpath

Councillor P Catney left the meeting during consideration of this item of business (6.29 pm).

Councillor A Redpath stated that he had been contacted by a constituent regarding a potential clean-up along a country road. Councillor Redpath outlined the nature of the service request and the response received. Upon contacting the Council himself, Councillor Redpath had also been advised that, due to specific operational Health and Safety requirements, there were constraints which may restrict litter picking on some rural roads. Councillor Redpath was advised that these constraints were currently being addressed and training provided as necessary. Councillor Redpath had raised this matter with the Director of Environmental Services and enquired if he could be provided with any answers regarding how quickly this training could be provided and what support the Council could provide via contractors in the interim period to make sure the gap was filled.

The Director of Environmental Services stated that this matter had been brought to her attention earlier in the afternoon. She advised that there were specific Health and Safety requirements for personnel deployed on roads where there were certain speed limits in place. The Director pointed out that this was not a recent development but had been recently amended. The Council had been aware of this legislative requirement, training had been ongoing and the Director undertook to come back to Councillor Redpath with a more accurate timeframe for its completion.

Conclusion of the Meeting

At the conclusion of the meeting, The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor B Bloomfield, reiterated earlier comments commending Council staff involved in the estimates process and also extended his best wishes to the Director of Corporate Services for his forthcoming retirement.

There being no further business for consideration, the meeting was terminated at 6.30 pm.

Mayor