

19 December 2011

**MINUTES** of the Meeting of the Environmental Services Committee held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Carrickfergus, on **MONDAY**, the **NINETEENTH** day of **DECEMBER** 2011, at the hour of **7.48** o'clock pm pursuant to the Acting Town Clerk's summons calling the Meeting, the following Members were present:

**Councillor E Ferguson, Chairman Presiding**

<b><u>Aldermen:</u></b>	M M Beattie	C J Brown	J McClurg
<b><u>Councillors:</u></b>	W Ashe	T R L Clements	I E Day
	D Emerson	W Hamilton	D Hilditch
	L McClurg	B McKnight	J Stewart

Apologies for non-attendance were received from Councillors Johnston and Wilson.

The following Officials were in attendance:-

Mr A Barkley	Director of Environmental Services
Miss A Beacom	Senior Committee Clerk

**REPORT FROM DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES**

Report from Director of Environmental Services for the month of November 2011, read and considered.

**ARISING OUT OF THE REPORT**

ES.71/11  
(ES.66/11)

**Planning Consultation Returns**

Members had been circulated with a copy breakdown of planning consultations processed for the period 15 November to 12 December 2011, for information purposes.

In reply to Councillor Hilditch regarding Application No.V/2011/0105/F in connection with a single wind turbine 211 metres north of 39 Cairn Road, Carrickfergus, the Director confirmed that a noise assessment had been requested and conditions would be included. The Director also undertook to check out a dispute over the distance between housing and the site of the facility.

Noted.

ES.72/11

**Work of Public Health Pilot – Causeway Coast and Glens and Mid and East Antrim Cluster**

Members were advised that the Review of Public Administration had presented an opportunity to review and refine the way in which health and social care and local government could work together to improve health and wellbeing and to reduce inequalities in health. In recognition of this, the Minister for Health, Social Services and Public Safety invited Councils to express interest in participating in new joint working teams. As a result, seven clusters were formed which reflected the proposed new Council boundaries.

Carrickfergus Borough Council was represented on the Causeway Coast and Glens & Mid and East Antrim Cluster which took in seven District Councils, Northern Group Systems and the Public Health Agency.

The Cluster had just released a report entitled 'Developing Effective Governance Arrangements to Support Cluster Health Improvement Working at Sub-Regional Level – An Action-Based Health Improvement Learning Project'. The report recorded the outcomes of a recent pilot which examined the barriers to uptake of fuel poverty based initiative from the perspective of the local community and key partner organisations. It also recorded the recommendations for building on and improving the government arrangements and support requirements of Clusters who were working together at sub-regional and local levels.

Special thanks were given to the Community Forum for its assistance in completing local research as part of the pilot project. A copy of the report was available in Committee Room 2 for Members' information.

Noted.

ES.73/11  
(ES.85/10)

**Air Pollution in NI – 2010**

The Committee was informed that on 25 November 2011, a report was published into Air Quality in Northern Ireland in 2010. The report was produced by the Department of the Environment in partnership with the Chief Environmental Health Officers' Group. Air quality in Northern Ireland had improved substantially in recent decades. In particular, concentrations of sulphur dioxide, which was associated with coal and oil combustion, had declined significantly. However, continued effort to reduce air pollution was therefore important as was continuous monitoring to assess progress and to aid policy development.

A full copy of the report was available in Committee Room 2, Town Hall or can be downloaded from

[http://www.airqualityni.co.uk/reports.php?n\\_action=report#1](http://www.airqualityni.co.uk/reports.php?n_action=report#1).

Noted.

ES.74/11 **DOE Annual Noise Report 2010/11**

Members were informed that the Department of the Environment Annual Noise Report 2010/11 which was available in Committee Room 2, analysed noise complaints received by all twenty six Councils from 1 April 2010 to 31 March 2011. It could be downloaded from

[http://www.doeni.gov.uk/noise\\_complaint\\_statistics\\_for\\_northern\\_ireland\\_2010-11.pdf](http://www.doeni.gov.uk/noise_complaint_statistics_for_northern_ireland_2010-11.pdf).

Noted.

ES.75/11  
(ES.33/11) **Grant of Amusement Permit**

The Committee was informed that the undernoted application had been received for the grant of an Amusement Permit under the Betting, Gaming, Lotteries and Amusements (NI) Order 1985:-

<b>Applicant Name</b>	<b>Premises Name/Address</b>
AVA Leisure Limited 14 Prince Regent Road Belfast	Twilight Zone 23 North Street Carrickfergus

It was recommended that the above named be granted an Amusement Permit for the premises detailed above.

It was Proposed by Alderman J McClurg, Seconded by Alderman Beattie, & AGREED to recommend accordingly.

ES.76/11  
(ES.69/11) **Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act (NI) 2011 - Guidance on Fixed Penalty Notices – Consultation**

Members had been circulated with copy proposed response from Council to consultation on the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act (NI) 2011 - Guidance on Fixed Penalty Notices.

It was recommended that the proposed response be approved.

It was AGREED to recommend acceptance of the response.

ES.77/11 **Department of Justice Consultation – Draft Response**

Members had been circulated with copy proposed response from Council (CEHOG) to the Department of Justice consultation, which was recommended for approval.

It was AGREED to recommend accordingly.

ES.78/11 **High Hedges Act (NI) 2011 – Guidance Consultation**

(ES.58/11)

Members had been circulated with copy proposed response from Council to consultation on the High Hedges Act (NI) 2011 – Draft Guidance.

It was recommended that the proposed response be approved.

It was AGREED to recommend acceptance of the response.

ES.79/11 **Draft Dogs (Licensing and Identification) Regulations – Consultation**

(C.326/11)

Members had been circulated with copy proposed response from Council (NIDAG) to consultation on the Draft Dogs (Licensing and Identification) Regulations.

It was recommended that the proposed response be approved.

It was AGREED to recommend accordingly.

ES.80/11 **The Landfill Allowance Scheme (NI) Regulations 2004 – Final Reconciliation Scheme Year 2010/11**

(ES.58/10)

Members had been circulated with copy letter dated 8 December 2011, from the Northern Ireland Environment Agency, advising that through WasteDataFlow, the Council had submitted quarterly returns for the scheme year 2010/11. From the returns submitted the Agency had calculated the amount of Biodegradable Municipal Waste (BMW) sent to landfill by each District Council for the scheme year 2010/11.

The total amount of BMW sent to landfill by the Council for the year 2010/11, was 7,746 tonnes. The Council did not exceed its allowances available for the scheme year through 72.23% utilisation of available allowances.

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The annual NILAS Report was available on the following page of the NIEA website: [http://www.doeni.gov.uk/niea/waste-home/municipal\\_data\\_reporting.htm](http://www.doeni.gov.uk/niea/waste-home/municipal_data_reporting.htm).

Noted.

**IT WAS PROPOSED BY ALDERMAN BEATTIE, SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR CLEMENTS, & AGREED THAT THE FOLLOWING ITEM BE DISCUSSED 'IN COMMITTEE'.**

**IT WAS PROPOSED BY ALDERMAN BEATTIE, SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR CLEMENTS, & AGREED THAT THE MEETING DO NOW RESUME.**

### **CONCLUSION OF MEETING**

The meeting terminated at 7.55 pm, when those Members present were as listed on page 1.