

Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council

To: Council Meeting

Date: 16th September 2015

Correspondence report

Copy correspondence available upon request

1. Proposed Changes to Speed Limit on B16, Bellaghy Road, Dunloy

Correspondence has been received from Department for Regional Development with reference to the proposed changes to speed limit on B16, Bellaghy Road, Dunloy.

TransportNI in consultation with the PSNI have reviewed the speed limits through the village of Dunloy and having examined a number of options it was agreed to take forward a proposal to introduce a 40mph buffer on the B16 Bellaghy Road to help reduce vehicle speeds on the approach to the village. To provide a sufficient length of 40mph restriction that will allow police enforcement, a slight reduction in the length of the existing 30mph speed limit will be required. The new 30mph speed limit, while being slightly closer to the village, will still commence in advance of the main housing development (plan attached).

Before proceeding with the drafting of the appropriate legislation, written comments from elected members are welcomed on this proposal by Friday 9th October 2015.

2. Rathlin – Councillors Meeting

In the previous period of Moyle District Council, Rathlin Development & Community Association (RDCA) had developed a good practice with Councillors of meeting a couple of times a year on Rathlin to keep each other informed of issues and opportunities, as well as to discuss options for support and development. Those meetings were felt to be very helpful and constructive, providing good opportunity for building good relationships for mutual benefit.

A visit was hosted in June and RDCA would like to extend an invitation again to the Causeway Coast and Glens Councillors to re-establish a programme of meeting with members of the RDCA Committee a couple of times a year on the island. Given this crucial stage of the consolidation of good Council practice, particularly with the new obligations of community planning, RDCA would welcome this opportunity to continue the good relations enjoyed before the new Council structures began.

They consider that Rathlin has reached an important point in its development with projects such as the new ferry, harbour developments, consideration of harbour area improvements to transport and parking, the progress of the wind turbine project, the new RSPB/CIL visitor facilities, work towards development of the Kelp Store, and recognise the important part the Council will play in many of these advances, to the benefit of the island community and the many thousands of visitors to the area.

They are also about to begin the second review period of the Rathlin Policy Action Plan and, again, feel that Councillors engagement in this process is very important.

RDCA are asking for date for a visit and nominees to attend.

3. Limavady Rotary Club – Christmas Tree

Correspondence has been received from Limavady Rotary Club asking that Council grant permission for them to once again man the town Christmas Tree to help raise money for the Salvation Army and St Vincent de Paul for local distribution (correspondence attached.)

Council is invited to consider this request.

4. Transport NI – New Email Address

Correspondence has been received from Department for Regional Development - TransportNI advising Council members and elected representatives that the email addresses for the local Maintenance Section Offices as provided in the recent TransportNI report to Council were incorrect.

Updated email addresses are as below:

For maintenance issues in the old Ballymoney and Moyle Council areas use:
TNI.CausewayCoast&GlensEast@drdni.gov.uk

For maintenance issues in the old Coleraine and Limavady Council areas use:
TNI.CausewayCoast&GlensWest@drdni.gov.uk

5. Ballykelly Post Office, 57 Main Street, Ballykelly, Limavady, BT49 9HS

Correspondence has been received from the Post Office, confirming that they will be proceeding with their proposal to move the above Post Office branch to Morans Supervalu, 68 Main Street, Ballykelly, Limavady BT49 9HS, where it will operate as one of their new local style Post Office Branches.

6. NILGA Conference – “The New General Power of Competence”

NILGA has extended an invitation to Elected Members to attend a FREE one day course “The new General Power of Competence” to be held on Wednesday 28th October 2015 at the Glenavon Hotel, Cookstown and Thursday 29th October 2015 at Lough Neagh Discovery Centre, Craigavon.

This one day course is hosted by NILGA supported by the Local Government Training Group and will be led by the Association of Public Service Excellence (APSE). It will seek to provide information on the Power, what it means and how Northern Ireland councils can learn from Council's experiences elsewhere. It will also discuss what steps Northern Ireland Councils need to take in order to utilize the General Power to deliver real, tangible benefits to citizens and communities (event flyer attached).

7. NILGA EER Awards Event

NILGA has extended an invitation to Elected Members and officials to attend a FREE half day seminar "Driving Economic Growth & Jobs" to be held on Tuesday 13th October 2015 at the Northern Ireland Executive Offices, Brussels.

NILGA is offering an open invitation to all Northern Ireland Councils, cross-border groups, partners, elected members and officers to attend the free morning event. Participants gain will be from the ability to evidence council led SME successes to Senior Commission investment markers and by creating the opportunity to benefit from targeted local European support and resources (event flyer attached).

8. NILGA Conference – Excellence in Local Government

NILGA working in association with Excellence in Local Government have extended an invitation for local government senior officers to attend the FREE "Excellence in Local Government" conference which will take place on the evening of 20th October 2015 and throughout the day on 21st October 2015 at The Roe Park Resort, Limavady (event flyer attached).

9. Proposed Waiting Restrictions – Lay-By, Portstewart Road, Coleraine

Correspondence has been received from Department for Regional Development with reference to vehicles being parked all day on the lay-by on the Portstewart Road, Coleraine near the university which is hindering the use of the lay-by. TransportNI proposes to introduce waiting restrictions on the lay-by as follows:

"Limited waiting 2 hrs (all week) 9am to 5pm. No return within 2 hours"

Before proceeding with the drafting of the appropriate legislation, written comments from elected members are welcomed on this proposal by Friday 9th October 2015.

10. Public Appointment Vacancies – Appointment of 9 Non-Executive members to the Board of Belfast Harbour Commissioners

DRD are advertising an open competition to recruit 9 Members to the Board of Belfast Harbour Commissioners. Advertisements were placed in the three main papers – The Irish News, The Newsletter and the Belfast Telegraph on 3rd and 4th September 2015.

Application packs (which provides detailed information on the process) can be obtained from:

DRD, Public Appointments Unit, Room 5-12, Clarence Court, 10-18 Adelaide Street, Belfast, BT2 8GB

Tel: (028) 9054 1002 or (028) 9054 1049

Text Phone: (028) 9054 0642

Text Relay Service 18001 02890541049

Alternatively information can be accessed at:

www.nidirect.gov.uk/public-appointment-vacancies

The deadline for receipt of applications is noon on Friday 25th September 2015.

11. Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment – Appointment of 5 new Board Members to the Board of the Consumer Council for Northern Ireland (CCN)

The Department of Enterprise is seeking to appoint five new board members to the Board of the Consumer Council for Northern Ireland (CCNI) effective from 1st January 2016 for a term of 3 years and is an open competition which involves an application form and interview.

An application pack (with full details of the selection criteria and guidance on the application process) can be obtained DETI's Public Appointments Unit by emailing pubappts@detini.gov.uk and will also be made available, on request in other formats. Deadline for receipt of applications is noon on 2nd October 2015 and interviews are scheduled to take place in the week commencing 16th November 2015.

12. NILGA/Social Security Agency

Copy of correspondence from Social Security Agency to CE of Northern Ireland Local Government Association relating to cases where local Councillors are making a claim or are currently receiving a social security benefit (correspondence attached).

13. Ballinasloe October Fair 3rd - 11th October 2015 – Annual Reception

Galway County Council has extended an invitation to elected Members to attend the Ballinasloe 3 Fairs Dinner on Saturday 13th October 2015.