

NEWRY, MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Ref: NMD/DC

**Minutes of the Meeting of Newry, Mourne and Down District Council
Development Committee held on Tuesday 23 September 2014 at 6.00pm in the
Boardroom, District Council Offices, Monaghan Row, Newry**

In the Chair: Cllr. W Clarke

In attendance: (Councillors)

Cllr. T Andrews	Cllr. P Clarke
Cllr. D Curran	Cllr. G Donnelly
Cllr. S Doran	Cllr. S Ennis
Cllr. G Fitzpatrick	Cllr. G Hanna
Cllr. L Kimmins	Cllr. D Hyland
Cllr. M Larkin	Cllr. K Loughran
Cllr. D McAteer	Cllr. R Mulgrew
Cllr. M Murnin	Cllr. B O Muiri
Cllr. B Quinn	Cllr. D Taylor
Cllr. B Walker	

(Officials)

Mr L Hannaway, Chief Executive Designate
Mr J McBride, Change Manager
Mr J McCorry, Director of Technical/Leisure Services
Mr C O'Rourke, Director of Environmental Services
Mr G McGivern, Director of District Development
Mr M Lipsett, Director of Recreation & Community Services
Mrs M Ward, Group Chief Building Control Office
Mr J Farrell, Director of Environment, Health and Building Services
Mr R Moore, Assistant Director of Technical/Leisure Services
Mrs C McAteer, Committee Administrator

DC/27/2014/2014: APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Mr E Curtis, Chief Executive, Newry and Mourne District Council

DC/28/2014: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor W Clarke and Councillor T Andrews declared an interest in Item 8 – Interim Community Support Plan for 2015/2016, as Board Members of the Citizens Advice Bureau in Downpatrick.

COMMITTEE BUSINESS

DC/29/2014: ACTION SHEET – DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING – 27 AUGUST 2014

Read: Action Sheet arising from the Development Committee Meeting held on 27 August 2014. **(Copy circulated).**

NOTED: Mr Hannaway confirmed that all actions had been progressed and gave an update on the following issues:-

Provision of Waste Management Services in Ballyward

Mr Hannaway confirmed that officials would shortly be meeting with officials from Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon District Council to discuss issues relating to the provision of waste management services in Ballyward and a report would be brought back to the October Meeting of the Development Committee.

Update on Irish Open

Mr Hannaway said he would be taking an update paper back to the October Development Committee Meeting.

Transfer of off street car parking from Transport NI

Mr Hannaway said he would be taking an update paper back to the October Development Committee Meeting.

PRESENTATIONS – IN COMMITTEE ITEM

DC/30/2014: FUTURE OF WASTE MANAGEMENT IN NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Read: Letter dated 9 July 2014 from the DoE highlighting the need for early Council decisions on the future arrangements for Local Government waste management. **(Copy circulated).**

NOTED: As background Mr Hannaway advised that the two legacy Councils are currently in two different waste management groups but when the Councils merge on 31 March 2015 this will raise issues in respect of cost and direction of travel in respect

of waste. He said that Waste Management Groups are “Body Corporates” and that the Council delegate to this Body decision making powers on behalf of the Council.

He said that both Groups would now give a separate presentation to the Council on their waste management services.

- AGREED:** It was **AGREED** on the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor P Clarke, **SECONDED** by Councillor D McAteer, to discuss this item “In-Committee” due to the staffing and contractual matters to be considered.
- NOTED:** Mr Graham Byrne, SWaMP gave a presentation on SWaMP and the future of waste management in Newry, Mourne and Down. **(Copy attached).**
- NOTED:** Mr Ricky Burnett, arc21 gave a presentation on arc21 and the future of waste management in Newry, Mourne and Down. **(Copy attached).** He recorded the apologies of Mr John Quinn, Chief Executive, who was unable to attend the meeting.
- NOATED:** A detailed question and answer session followed each presentation and Mr Byrne and Mr Burnett left the meeting at the conclusion of their presentations.
- READ:** Report dated 23 September 2014 from Mr C O’Rourke/Mr J McCorry on options on the future of waste management in Newry, Mourne and Down District Council. (Copy circulated).
- AGREED:** It was **AGREED** on the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor D McAteer, **SECONDED** by Councillor P Clarke to come “Out of Committee”.
- AGREED:** The Chairman reported that Members had considered the Options Paper on the future of waste management and had agreed on the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor P Clarke, **SECONDED** by Councillor Donnelly, to approve the recommendations in the report and that a further paper with option appraisals would be brought back to the October Development Committee Meeting for consideration.

SERVICE CONVERGENCE

DC/31/2014: **INTERIM VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS POLICY FOR 2015-2016**

Read: Report dated 23 September 2014 from Mr G McGivern on the Interim Voluntary Contributions Policy for 2015/2016 (**Copy circulated**) and seeking approval for the following recommendations:-

1. The Council agrees a budget for 2015/16 for Voluntary Contributions based on the current 2014/15 budgets of the legacy Councils.
2. The Council agrees a single channel for the receipt and processing of all applications for Voluntary Contributions.
3. That all Voluntary Contributions are dealt with by way of application, to include an appeals mechanism.
4. That approval is given to officials to draft a Paper outlining a recommended application procedure with detail of timelines for adoption by the Shadow Council, to include several calls per year.
5. During the 2015/16 year the Council to develop a new policy for Voluntary Contributions based on the emerging Community Plan, Community Support Plan, and former DSD Programmes etc.
6. That existing signed and valid Service Level Agreements are retained for 2015/16 subject to satisfactory evaluation.

AGREED: It was **AGREED** on the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Andrews, **SECONDED** by Councillor Hanna, to approve the above report and recommendations.

NOTED: In response to queries from Members Mr McGivern said that a number of roadshows would be organised across the District to get the message across to all Community Groups/Voluntary Organisations about the proposed change in policy and to give them advice on the procedures to be followed if applying for a voluntary contribution from the Council.

AGREED: It was **AGREED** on the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Quinn, **SECONDED** by Councillor Hanna, to write to the Minister of Culture, Arts and Leisure asking that any schemes funded through Sportsni should be fully funded by them so that groups do not have to seek additional funds from other bodies.

NOTED: Councillor D McAteer said that the new Council should consider increasing the funding given to Groups by the Council for viable projects which fitted in with the Community Plan, to a more realistic sum to reflect current building costs.

DC/32/2014: INTERIM COMMUNITY SUPPORT PLAN FOR 2015/2016

Read: Report dated 23 September 2014 from Mr G McGivern on the Interim Community Support Plan for 2015/2016 (**Copy circulated**) and seeking approval for the following recommendations:-

1) Agree to expenditure profile detailed below:-

**Appendix 1 -
Interim Community Support Plan Expenditure Profile 2015- 16
Newry Mourn and Down District Council**

Area of expenditure	NMDC	DSD Contribution	DDC	DSD Contribution	Total
Community Support Staff / Administration	£90,271	£50,431	£7,027	£7,027	£154,756
Resource Centres - Council Run					£0
Resource Centres - Voluntary Run	£15,800	£10,000			£25,800
Community Centres - Council Run	£221,784	£83,125	£524,261	£21,013	£850,183
Community Centres - Voluntary run	£48,269	£15,000			£63,269
Grants to other voluntary groups /Voluntary Contributions	£16,515	£5,000	£33,288	£28,804	£83,607
Capacity building and training with voluntary groups					£0
Work on Community Support Plan	£20,000		£20,000		£40,000
Advice organisations - (CAB)	£59,617	£79,922	£105,118	£47,882	£292,539

Advice organisations - Other					£0
Other	£18,951	£1,000	£18,375	£1,703	£40,029
Neighbourhood Renewal Advice Worker					£0
TOTAL DSD Grant		£244,478		£106,429	£350,907
TOTAL Council Contribution	£491,207		£708,069		£1,199,276
Overall Total					£1,550,183

- 2) Agree to the expenditure of £40,000 to employ external expertise to review the strands of the Interim Community Support Plan and to facilitate the Council to develop arrangements for supporting the Community Voluntary Sector post 2016.

AGREED: It was **AGREED** on the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor P Clarke, **SECONDED** by Councillor D McAteer, to approve the above report and recommendations.

NOTED: A number of Members referred to the need for flexibility within the Community Support Plan Expenditure Profile for 2015-2016 and said it would be important that a mechanism is available for groups who were not included on the list to apply to the Council for funding. Reference was made to PIPS and in particular their funding drive to sustain their support services in Newcastle.

DC/33/2014: **REVIEW OF BYE LAWS**

Read: Report dated 16 September 2014 from Eileen McParland/Alison White on the Review of existing Bye-Laws, advising they were awaiting administrative guidance currently being developed by DoE Local Government Policy Division on bye-laws. **(Copy circulated).**

AGREED: It was unanimously **AGREED** to mark the above report 'noted'.

DC/34/2014: **18TH NATIONAL GOLF TOURISM CONFERENCE AND 2015 GALA IRISH GOLF AWARDS**

Read: Report dated 23 September 2014 from Mr M Lipsett recommending that Newry, Mourne and Down District Council support the bid to bring the 18th National Golf Tourism Conference and 2015 Gala Irish Golf Awards to the Slieve Donard Resort and Spa and Royal County Down Golf Club from 17 – 19 October 2015 and to make a financial contribution of £10,000 to secure same. Approval is also sought to appoint 3 representatives from the Shadow Council to attend the “2014 Gala Irish Golf Awards” which will take place at Knockranny House Hotel and Spa and Westport Golf Club on Monday 20 October 2014. (Copy circulated).

AGREED: **It was AGREED on the PROPOSAL of Councillor P Clarke, SECONDED by Councillor Donnelly to make a financial contribution of £10,000 towards securing the bid to bring the 18th National Golf Tourism Conference to Newcastle.**

NOTED: Comments from Councillor Curran that if the event is to be held in Newcastle, that every effort is made to ensure that tours of all the other golfing facilities throughout the Newry, Mourne and Down District Council area are organised.

Councillor Quinn also asked that officials investigate if a number of tables could be made available at the event for other golf providers from the area and also for tourist accommodation providers.

AGREED: **It was unanimously AGREED to appoint Councillor W Clarke; Councillor T Andrews and Councillor G Fitzpatrick to attend the 2014 Gala Irish Golf Awards in Westport on Monday 20 October 2014.**

DC/35/2014: **DRAFT TOURISM EVENTS PROGRAMME 2015/2016**

Read: Report dated 23 September 2014 from Mr M Lipsett/Mr G McGivern giving details of the proposed tourism events programme for 2015/2016 and seeking approval to proceed with the pre event organisation for the events as listed. (Copy circulated).

AGREED: **It was AGREED on the PROPOSAL of Councillor Murnin, SECONDED by Councillor Curran, to approve the above report and recommendation to proceed with the pre event organisation for the events as listed.**

DC/36/2014: NI WATER – REQUEST TO GIVE PRESENTATION

Read: Letter dated 9 June 2014 from the Chief Executive of NI Water offering a briefing session at a Shadow Meeting. (Copy circulated).

AGREED: It was **AGREED** to invite NI Water to make a presentation at the December Shadow Council Meeting.

DC/37/2014: INDEPENDENT MEMBERS RECRUITMENT PROCESS FOR RECONSTITUTION OF PCSPs in APRIL 2015

Read: PCSP Communique: Issue Number 33 giving information on the recruitment process for the reconstitution of PCSPs in April 2015. (Copy circulated).

AGREED: It was **AGREED** to mark the above correspondence `noted`.

TRANSFERRING FUNCTIONS

DC/38/2014: LOCAL GOVERNMENT REFORM – OFF STREET CAR PARKING

Read: Letter dated 10 September 2014 from Ards Borough Council regarding issues of concern on the transfer of off street car parking to Councils . (Copy circulated).

AGREED: It was **AGREED** to mark the above correspondence `noted`.

AGREED: Mr Hannaway table an update paper at the October Development Committee Meeting for consideration.

DC/39/2014: SPORTSNI – PROPOSED NI SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY – REQUEST FOR A FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION

Read: Report dated 22 September 2014 from Mr M Lipsett seeking approval for Newry, Mourne and Down District Council to make a financial contribution (approx.. £5,500) towards the costs of a new sport facility strategy. (Copy circulated).

AGREED: It was **AGREED** on the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Loughran, **SECONDED** by Councillor Hanna, to approve a financial contribution of approximately £5,500 from Newry, Mourne and Down District Council to Sportsni towards a NI sports facility strategy.

There being no further business the meeting ended at 8.25 pm.

For consideration at the Shadow Council Meeting to be held on Tuesday 7 October 2014.

Signed: **Councillor W Clarke**
Chairperson

Signed: **Mr L Hannaway**
Chief Executive Designate