

**NEWRY, MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Ref: NMD/DC

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**Minutes of the Meeting of Newry, Mourne and Down District Council  
Development Committee held on Tuesday 28 October 2014 at 6.00pm in the  
Boardroom, District Council Offices, Monaghan Row, Newry**

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**In the Chair: Cllr. W Clarke**

**In attendance: (Councillors)**

Cllr. T Andrews	Cllr. P Clarke
Cllr. R Burgess	Cllr. W Clarke
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. B O Muiri
Cllr. D Taylor	Cllr. B Walker

**(Officials)**

Mr L Hannaway, Chief Executive Designate  
Mr J McBride, Change Manager  
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 Officer  
Mrs H McKee, Community Planning Officer  
Mrs C McAteer, Committee Administrator

**DC/40/2014: APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Councillor D Curran, Councillor d Curran, Councillor M Murnin.

**DC/41/2014: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

## **COMMITTEE BUSINESS**

### **DC/42/2014: ACTION SHEET – DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING 23 SEPTEMBER 2014**

**Read:** Action Sheet arising from the Development Committee Meeting held on 23 September 2014. **(Copy circulated).**

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

#### **Ballyward/Provision of Waste Management Services**

A report on this matter would be brought back to the November Development Committee Meeting for consideration.

#### **Transfer of Off Street Car Parking from Transport NI/Condition of Car Parks**

Mr Hannaway advised there were two pieces of work ongoing in relation to the transfer of car parking. He said there was a due diligence issue and the DRD Committee in the Assembly had discussed the transfer of Off Street Car Parking to Councils. Some Members of the Committee were seeking to put conditions on Councils in relation to the disposal of car parks going forward but this was something Councils were against as they felt they needed to have the ultimate say if any disposal issue arose as Councils may find, at a future date, that they would have to dispose of a car park for regeneration purposes; Councils would be only too conscious of the need to provide adequate town centre parking.

Mr Hannaway also confirmed that Newry, Mourne and Down District Council had undertaken a sample survey of the car parks which would be transferring to them and had identified that approximately £100,000 worth of maintenance work needed to be carried out based on the sample. This had been referred to Deloitte who were working for the 11 Councils on due diligence issues. He said the strong view of Councils was that any money needed for upgrading and maintenance works should be transferred to Councils.

#### **Future Group Structures for Waste Management**

Mr Hannaway confirmed that work was ongoing on this issue and that a report would be brought back to a future Development Committee Meeting for consideration.

#### **Update on Irish Open**

Councillor Clarke, Councillor Andrews and Councillor Fitzpatrick gave an update to Members on their attendance at the 2014 Gala Irish Golf Awards in Westport on 20 October 2014 and said it had been an excellent event and they had made many worthwhile contacts.

## SERVICE CONVERGENCE

**DC/43/2014: INTERIM VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION APPLICATION AND ASSESSMENT PROCEDURES**

**Read:** Report dated 23 October 2014 from Mr G McGivern on the Interim Voluntary Contribution Application and Assessment Procedures and recommending adoption of the following documents as circulated:-

- a) Financial Assistance Policy
- b) Financial Assistance Procedure
- c) Financial Assistance Application Form, incorporating guidance notes and assessment criteria
- d) Financial Assistance Review (Appeal) process

The report also recommended that up to 3 calls for Voluntary Contribution applications for 2015/2016 will be made with the first call announced in November 2014 under a number of themes as listed in the report.

The report also attached a list of service level agreements for 2015/2016 for noting.

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

**NOTED:** In response to queries from Members Mr McGivern advised that guidance notes would be given out to applicants listing the areas under which they could apply and detailing the maximum grant available. There would also be a series of road shows held in the 7 District Electoral Areas of the District.

**NOTED:** Mr Hannaway confirmed that the Voluntary Contribution process would be open and transparent and evaluation appraisals, including value for money, will be carried out going forward. He said the provision of Service Level Agreements for 2015/2016 had previously been agreed and this gave these Groups a level of certainty for one year. The levels of funding will be subject to review during the Estimates process.

**DC/44/2014: TENDER FOR ECONOMIC REGENERATION VISION AND INVESTMENT STRATEGY**

**Read:** Report dated 28 October 2014 from Mr G McGivern advising that Tenders for the Economic Regeneration Strategy 2015/2020 had been received and are currently being assessed. He requested

approval for the Development Committee to defer powers to the Governance Committee Meeting to be held on 11 November 2014 to consider the Tender Report, appoint consultants and commence the 10 day stand still period as per procurement procedures, to enable the contract to commence before the end of November 2014. (Copy circulated).

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

**DC/45/2014:** **CAMLOUGH LAKE - REHABILITATION**

**Read:** Report dated 28 October 2014 from Mr G McGivern seeking approval for Newry, Mourne and Down District Council to commit a capital contribution for rehabilitation works at Camlough Lake in the financial years 2015/2016; 2016/2017 and 2017/2018 as follows: - (Copy circulated)

2015/2016	£ 245,000
2016/2017	£ 812,500
2017/2018	£ 200,000
TOTAL	£1,257,500

**AGREED:** It was **AGREED** on the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor R Mulgrew **SECONDED** by Councillor K Loughran that Newry, Mourne and Down District Council confirm the commitment to pay **£1,257,500 (over 3 years) towards the rehabilitation programme of Camlough Lake.**

**Noted:** Following comments from Members, Mr McGivern confirmed that officials would continue to work on securing the title and ownership of Camlough Lake for Newry, Mourne and Down District Council and continue to investigate funding sources to develop it as a valuable tourism asset.

**DC/46/2014:** **INTERIM EVENTS DELIVERY FRAMEWORK 2015/2016**

**Read:** Report dated 28 October 2014 from Mr M Lipsett seeking approval to implement the Events Delivery Framework for 2015/2016 as circulated at the meeting. As a number of the events require significant pre-planning permission was granted at the Development Meeting on 23 September 2014 to proceed with this pre-event organisation and applications. (Copy circulated).

**AGREED:** It was **AGREED** on the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor T Andrews **SECONDED** by Councillor P Clarke to approve the above report and to grant approval to officials to implement the Events Delivery Framework as circulated.

Noted: In response to queries from Members, Mr Lipsett confirmed that Down District Council had carried out an evaluation exercise on some of the major festivals/events which they had held and this was something which would be developed going forward in the new Council, for all events.

**DC/47/2014: BURIAL CHARGES FOR NON-RESIDENT BURIALS**

**Read:** Report dated 28 October 2014 from Alison Robb setting out the options for burial charges for non-resident burials in Newry, Mourne and Down District Council and giving options to address this issue. (Copy circulated).

**AGREED:** It was **AGREED** on the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor K Loughran **SECONDED** by Councillor R Burgess to recommend that Newry, Mourne and Down District Council apply a higher charge for non-resident burials but that there would be some qualifications to this e.g. people who move out of the District for nursing care reasons.

**DC/48/2014: REFUND OF BUILDING REGULATION FEES**

**Read:** Report dated October 2014 from Mr G M Bradley on a policy/procedures regarding the refund of Building Regulation fees and recommending that in view of legal opinion, Newry, Mourne and Down District Council adopt a common practice of refunding building regulation fees where projects do not commence and to refund 50% of the fee paid. (Copy circulated).

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

**NEW INITIATIVES**

**DC/49/2014: UPDATE ON THE IRISH OPEN**

**Read:** Report dated 27 October 2014 from Mr L Hannaway advising that preparation for the Irish Open is underway within the new Council area and that he has established Working Groups to move forward the key issues which will make the event a success, i.e. traffic and transportation; festival and events; communications/industry engagement; emergency plan/volunteering and environmental/physical regeneration.

Mr Hannaway also referred to the Irish Open Sub Group which met with the European Tour Representatives on 27 October 2014. (Copy circulated).

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

Noted: A discussion followed on the Irish Open Competition to be held in Newcastle in 2015 and Members spoke of the enormous potential that the media coverage of the event will have for the Newry, Mourne and Down District; the opportunity for the area to promote itself and also the opportunities and benefits which local businesses will be able to avail of because of the event being held in the area.

**DC/50/2014: SAVE THE CHILDREN INITIATIVE**

**Read:** Report dated 28 October 2014 from Mr L Hannaway advising Save the Children had approached the Council with a view to submitting an application to support children living in poverty in the new Council Area to the Big Lottery "Supporting Families" programme and asking that the Council agree in principle to become a partner in an application to the Big Lottery "Supporting Families" programme. (Copy circulated).

Noted: Mr Hannaway said that at this stage there would be no financial cost to the Council with only staff time and Council data being required.

**AGREED:** It was **AGREED** on the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Donnelly **SECONDED** by Councillor Hyland that the Council **AGREE** in principle to become a partner in an application to the Big Lottery/Supporting Families programme and that the Council's Community Planning Manager work on this project going forward.

Noted: Councillor Clarke welcomed Heather McKee as the new Community Planning Manager of Newry, Mourne and Down District Council and congratulated her on her appointment.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

**DC/51/2014: NORTHERN IRELAND AMENITY COUNCIL**

**Read:** Letter dated 1 July 2014 from the Chairman of the Northern Ireland Amenity Council seeking a meeting with relevant officers or the appropriate Committee of the Council to discuss in detail what they do and how they can be of benefit to the Council. (Copy circulated).

**AGREED:** It was **AGREED** that in the first instance Mr L Hannaway Chief Executive Designate meet with the Chairman of the Northern Ireland Amenity Council and if appropriate invite them to make a presentation at a future Development Committee Meeting.

**DC/52/2014: UPDATE ON PEACE IV**

**Read:** Letter dated 16 October 2014 from the Special EU Programmes Body giving an update in relation to progress on the Peace IV Programme and confirming that the co-operation programme was approved by the Northern Ireland Executive and Government of Ireland and submitted to the European Commission by the agreed timeframe of 22 September 2014. (Copy circulated).

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

**Noted:** Mr Hannaway advised that this work would feed into the Community Plan of the new Council going forward.

**DC/53/2014: LOCAL ACTION GROUP (LAG) FORMATION 2014-2020 AND NORTHERN IRELAND RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME 2014-2020 – LEADER ALLOCATIONS**

**Read:** Letters dated 15 October 2014 and 22 October 2014 from the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development giving an update on the progress for the formation and operation of the new Local Action Groups (LAGs) and also giving details of the allocations for the priority 6 Leader measures under LIRDP 2014-2020 with the Newry, Mourne and Down indicative budget allocation being £11.18 million. (Copy circulated).

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

**Noted:** In response to queries from Members Mr Hannaway confirmed that the nominations for the Local Action Groups would be considered at the Council's AGM along with all other positions of responsibility.

**Noted:** Councillor Burgess expressed his concerns that the Local Action Groups would not be formed before this date and said it was important that they begin to operate as soon as possible to be able to spend the funding which has been allocated to each Council.

**DC/54/2014: LOCAL AUTHORITY CONFERENCE – STEERING WASTE THROUGH REORGANISATION**

**Read:** Details of a one day Local Authority conference on Steering Waste Through Reorganisation to be held at Lagan Valley Island Lisburn on Thursday 4 December 2014 from 9.30am – 3pm (no fee).

**AGREED:** It was **AGREED** to appoint the following Members to attend the Conference: -

**Councillor Robert Burgess  
Councillor Terry Andrews  
Councillor Rosin Mulgrew**

**Councillor Willie Clarke  
Councillor Declan McAteer**

## CONSULTATIONS

**DC/55/2014:** **DRAFT CONSULTATION – RESEARCH FOR BETTER HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE: A STRATEGY FOR HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE RESEARCH FOR DEVELOPMENT IN NORTHERN IRELAND**

**Read:** Consultation paper from the Department of Health and Social Services and Public Safety on Research for Better Health and Social Care - a Strategy for Health and Social Care Research and Development in Northern Ireland. (Copy circulated).

**AGREED:** **It was AGREED that if any Member had any comments on the above consultation document that they advise the Committee Administrators who would submit their comments to the Department.**

**DC/56/2014:** **CONSULTATION PAPER ON A STRATEGY FOR THE DELIVERY FOR GENERALIST ADVICE SERVICES IN NORTHERN IRELAND**

**Read:** A Consultation Paper on a Strategy for the Delivery for Generalist Advice Services in Northern Ireland. **(Copy Circulated).**

**AGREED:** **It was AGREED that if any Member had any comments on the above consultation document that they advise the Committee Administrators who would submit their comments to the Department.**

**Noted:** Mr Hannaway said that the above Consultation Paper and the vision and values contained in it would be brought forward through the Council's Community Planning function.

There being no further business the meeting ended at 7.10 pm.

For consideration at the Shadow Council Meeting to be held on Tuesday 4 November 2014.

**Signed:** **Councillor W Clarke**  
**Chairperson**

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