

## NEWRY MOURNE AND DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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**Minutes of Strategy Policy & Resources Committee Meeting held on Thursday 13 August at 3.00pm in the Mourne Room, Downshire Civic Centre, Downpatrick.**

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**Chairperson:** Councillor Burns (Acting Chair) 3.05pm – 3.10pm  
Councillor R Burgess (3.10pm – 6.20pm)

**Vice Chairperson:** Councillor H Reilly

**In Attendance:**

Councillor P Brown	Councillor S Burns
Councillor M Carr	Councillor W Clarke
Councillor G Craig	Councillor G Donnelly
Councillor L Kimmins	Councillor C McGrath
Councillor B Ó'Muirí	Councillor B Quinn
Councillor M Ruane	Councillor B Walker

**Non-Committee Members:**

Councillor T Andrews	Councillor C Casey
Councillor C Enright	Councillor M Murnin
Councillor JJ Tinnelly	

**Officials in Attendance:**

Mr L Hannaway, Chief Executive  
Mr E Curtis, Director of Strategic Planning & Performance  
Mr C O'Rourke, Director of Regulatory & Technical Services  
Mr M Lipsett, Director of Active & Healthy Communities  
Ms C Miskelly, Head of Human Resources  
Ms R Mackin, Assistant Director, Equality  
Mr P Green, Legal Advisor  
Mr A Hay, Development Plan Manager  
Mr E McManus  
Mrs J Hillen, PCSP Manager  
Mrs E McParland, Democratic Services Manager  
Miss S Taggart, Democratic Services Officer

### **SPR/93/2015:- APOLOGIES AND CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS**

Apologies were received from Councillor Curran.

As neither the Chairperson nor the Vice-Chairperson were in attendance at the commencement of the meeting, it was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Ruane,

seconded by Councillor Kimmins that Councillor Burns assume the Chair at this stage – 3.05pm.

Councillor Burns highlighted the tragic road accident that had occurred in Ballynahinch where a man had lost his life and sent the Committee's condolences to the deceased's family.

**SPR/94/2015:- DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The Chief Executive declared an interest in item 17 – Community Planning Pilot Initiatives as he was a member of Community Development and Health Network.

**SPR/95/2015:- ACTION SHEET OF THE STRATEGY, POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 11 JUNE 2015**

Read: Action Sheet of the Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee Meeting held on 11 June 2015.

Noted: **The Action Sheet was NOTED.**

**PRESENTATION**

**SPR/96/2015:- PRESENTATION BY MR E MCMANUS TECHNICAL/LEISURE SERVICES RE: GREAT EASTERN GREENWAY - NEWRY TO CARLINGFORD**

Mr McManus presented a report on the Newry to Carlingford Greenway with a recommendation that Council approval to extend the Greenway and to proceed to tender as soon as planning permission was in place (**copy of presentation attached**).

Mr McManus invited Members to a consultation meeting on the project on Thursday 27 August 2015 in Newry Arts Centre at 6.30pm.

Councillor Casey questioned whether consultancy fees were included in the total projected costings and whether repair work required at the Albert Basin could be carried out.

Mr McManus advised that consultancy fees were included within the total projected costings, and there was 45m section of repair required and this could be carried out with the provision of adequate fencing being established.

Councillor Carr questioned if officers could investigate alternative materials to use rather than rock armour, which, he said, becomes a collection ground for litter and waste.

Mr McManus advised alternatives may be looked at depending on the level of detail, budget and environmental constraints.

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Quinn, seconded by Councillor Donnelly to accept the officer's recommendation to approve to extend the Great Eastern Greenway and proceed to tender as soon as planning permission was in place.

Councillor Burgess joined the Meeting during the above presentation – 3.10pm and took the Chair. Councillor Reilly joined the Meeting during the above presentation – 3.30pm.

### **CORPORATE PLANNING AND POLICY**

**SPR/97/2015:- CONSULTATION ON PROPOSALS TO EXTEND AGE DISCRIMINATION LEGISLATION (AGE, GOODS, FACILITIES AND SERVICES) FROM 3 JULY - 8 OCTOBER 2015**

**Read:** Report from Mrs R Mackin, Assistant Director of Corporate Planning & Policy dated 3 July 2015 enclosing letter from the Head of Equality & Social Change Unit, OFMDFM, giving details on a consultation on proposals to extend Age Discrimination Legislation (Age, Goods, Facilities and Services) from 3 July – 8 October 2015 (copy circulated).

**Noted:** The report and correspondence was noted

**SPR/98/2015:- NICCY PARTICIPATION POLICY STATEMENT OF INTENT (PPSI)**

**Read:** Report from Mrs R Mackin, Assistant Director Corporate Planning & Policy, dated 9 June 2015 on the NICCY Participation Policy Statement of Intent (PPSI) (copy circulated)

Mrs Mackin presented the above report and recommended that Council endorse the principle and practice of participation with children and young people in all Council work.

Councillor Burns proposed that the Committee accept the officer's recommendation and that Council develop an improvement strategy for working with children and young people and integrate this into the community planning process.

The proposal was seconded by Councillor W Clarke.

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Burns, seconded by Councillor W Clarke to accept the officer's recommendation and that Council develop an improvement strategy for working with children

**and young people and integrate this into the community planning process.**

**SPR/99/2015:- DELIVERING SOCIAL CHANGE – STAKEHOLDER UPDATE – JULY 2015**

**Read:** Report from Mrs R Mackin, Assistant Director Corporate Planning and Policy on Delivering Social Change – Stakeholder Update – July 2015 (Copy circulated)

Mrs Mackin presented a report on the above and asked Members to note the contents.

**Noted:** **It was agreed to note the contents of Delivering Social Change – Stakeholder Update – July 2015**

**SPR/100/2015:- ONUS SAFE PLACE AWARD CEREMONY**

**Read:** Report from Mrs R Mackin, Assistant Director Corporate Planning and Policy on ONUS Safe Place Award Ceremony (copy circulated)

Mrs Mackin presented her report and asked for permission from the Council to host the annual ONUS Safe Place Award Ceremony in Newry on Wednesday 4 November 2015 at 6.00pm.

**Agreed:** **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor W Clarke, seconded by Councillor Burns to grant permission for Council to host the annual ONUS Safe Place Award Ceremony in Newry on Wednesday 4 November 2015 at 6.00pm.**

**SPR/101/2015:- AGE FRIENDLY CONFERENCE**

**Read:** Report from Mrs R Mackin, Assistant Director Corporate Planning and Policy on Age Friendly Conference (copy circulated)

Mrs Mackin presented a report on the Age Friendly Conference which was to be held on Wednesday 11 November 2015 in the Canal Court, Newry. She advised Members would receive invitations in due course.

**Noted:** **It was agreed to note the contents of the report.**

**EQUALITY**

**SPR/102/2015:- REPORT ON REVISED TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR COUNCILLORS' EQUALITY AND GOOD RELATIONS REFERENCE GROUP**

**Read:** Report from Mr C Moffett, Equality Officer, dated 13 August 2015, on Revised Terms of Reference for Councillors' Equality and Good Relations Reference Group (copy circulated)

**Agreed:** The revised Terms of Reference for Councillors' Equality and Good Relations Reference Group were agreed on the proposal of Councillor Burns, seconded by Councillor Donnelly.

**SPR/103/2015:- REPORT ON SECTION 75 POLICY SCREENING REPORT – QUARTERLY REPORT APRIL-JUNE 2015**

**Read:** Report from Mr C Moffett, Equality Officer, dated 13 August 2015, regarding Section 75 Policy Screening Report – Quarterly Report for period April-June 2015 (copy circulated)

**Noted:** It was agreed to note the report on Section 75 Policy Screening Report – Quarterly Report for period April-June 2015

**SPR/104/2015:- EQUALITY SCREENING REPORT ON ELECTED MEMBER BILINGUAL STATIONERY**

**Read:** Report from Mr C Moffett, Equality Officer, dated 13 August 2015, regarding Equality Screening Report on Elected Member bilingual stationery. (Copy circulated)

**Noted:** It was agreed to note the Equality Screening Report on Elected Member Bilingual Stationery.

**SPR/104/2015:- EQUALITY SCREENING REPORT ON COUNCIL DECISION TO USE .ORG AS COUNCIL'S PRIMARY WEBSITE AND EMAIL DOMAINS**

**Read:** Report from Mr C Moffett, Equality Officer, dated 13 August 2015, regarding Equality Screening Report on Council decision to use .org as Council's primary website and email domains. (Copy circulated)

**Noted:** It was agreed to note the Equality Screening Report on Council decision to use .org as Council's primary website and email domains.

Mr Curtis advised the next item contained exempt information and should be considered in closed session. He recommended Members take items 30, 31, 32, 45, 46 and 48 at this stage as they also contained information that was exempt.

It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Burns, seconded by Councillor Craig to go into closed session at this stage.

**SPR/105/2015:- REPORT ON GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED FROM MCATAMNEY SOLICITORS LIMITED, DATED 23 JUNE 2015, WITH REGARD TO RAYMOND MCCREESH PARK**

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Burns, seconded by Councillor Craig, it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on this matter which related to exempt information by virtue of Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 – information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Council holding that information).

**Agreed:** When the Committee came out of closed session, Mr Curtis advised it had been agreed on the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor Ó'Muiri to note the update with regard to Newry and Mourne District Council decision to name Raymond McCreesh Park.

**SPR/106/2015:- PROGRESS REPORT ON DOWN LEISURE CENTRE**

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Burns, seconded by Councillor Craig, it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on this matter which related to exempt information by virtue of Paragraph 4 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 – information relating to any consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations, in connection with any labour relations matter arising between the Council or a Government department and employees of, or office holders under, the Council.

**Agreed:** When the Committee came out of closed session, Mr Curtis advised it had been agreed on the proposal of Councillor McGrath, seconded by Councillor Burns to approve the resumption of the process to appoint a contractor-led Integrated Supply Team (IST) to progress construction of the Down Leisure Centre.

**SPR/107/2015:- PROGRESS REPORT ON NEWRY LEISURE CENTRE**

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Burns, seconded by Councillor Craig, it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on this matter which related to exempt information by virtue of Paragraph 4 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 – information relating to any consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations, in connection with any labour relations matter arising between the Council or a Government department and employees of, or office holders under, the Council and the public may, by resolution, be excluded during this item of business.

**Agreed:** When the Committee came out of closed session, Mr Curtis reported it had been agreed on the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor Ó'Muiri to provide a clubhouse for St John Bosco GAC within Phase 2 of Newry Leisure Centre, with office accommodation for Council use, subject to the Department for Social Development providing funding towards the cost of the overall project.

**SPR/108/2015:- PURCHASE OF ST MARY'S LAND, NEWCASTLE**

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Burns, seconded by Councillor Craig, it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on this matter which related to exempt information by virtue of Paragraph 4 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 – information relating to any consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations, in connection with any labour relations matter arising between the Council or a Government department and employees of, or office holders under, the Council.

**Agreed:** When the Committee came out of closed session, Mr Curtis advised it had been agreed to note the update provided on the purchase of St Mary's land.

**SPR/109/2015:- ELECTED MEMBER APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO UNDERTAKE COURSE OF STUDY**

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Burns, seconded by Councillor Craig, it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on this matter which related to exempt information by virtue of Paragraph 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local

**Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 – information relating to any individual.**

**Agreed:** When the Committee came out of closed session, Mr Curtis advised it had been agreed to approve the application for financial assistance for an Elected Member to undertake a course of study on the proposal of Councillor Burns, seconded by Councillor Donnelly, in accordance with Council policy and precedent, whereby applicant pays for the course upfront and the Council then reimburses the applicant following receipt of accreditation at the end of the course.

**SPR/110/2015:- VOLUNTARY SEVERANCE SCHEME**

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Burns, seconded by Councillor Craig, it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on this matter which related to exempt information as defined in Section 51 of the Local Government Act (NI) 2014, Schedule 6 Part 1, Para 1 – 4.

**Agreed:** When the Committee came out of closed session, Mr Curtis advised it had been agreed on the proposal of Councillor Burns, seconded by Councillor Ruane to approve the recommendations as set out in the report regarding the second phase of consideration of applications for voluntary severance.

**SPR/111/2015:- REPORT OF TENDERS AWARDED TO THE 22 JULY 2015**

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Burns, seconded by Councillor Craig, it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on this matter which related to exempt information by virtue of Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 - Information relating to the financial of business affairs of any particular person (including the Council holding that information).

**Agreed:** When the Committee came out of closed session, Mr Curtis advised it had been agreed on the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor Donnelly to note the contents of the report on tenders awarded up to 22 July 2015.

It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor W Clarke to come out of closed session at this stage.

## **COMMUNITY PLANNING**

### **SPR/112/2015:- REVIEW OF HSC COMMISSIONING ARRANGEMENTS**

**Read:** Report from Mrs H McKee, Community Planning Manager, dated 13 August 2015, enclosing response to review of HSC Commissioning Arrangements. (Copy circulated)

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Burns, seconded by Councillor Craig to approve the response from Newry, Mourne and Down District Council for submission to Health, Social Services and Public Safety regarding review of HSC Commissioning arrangements.

### **SPR/113/2015:- COMMUNITY PLANNING BASELINE EVIDENCE DOCUMENT**

**Read:** Report from Mrs H McKee, Community Planning Manager, dated 13 August 2015, regarding Community Planning Baseline Evidence. (Copy circulated)

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Burns, seconded by Councillor Donnelly to note the report on Community Planning Baseline Evidence and to use this evidence to support the next phase of engagement towards developing a Community Plan for the area.

The Chief Executive left the chamber at this stage having previously declared an interest – 4.25pm

### **SPR/114/2015:- COMMUNITY PLANNING PILOT INITIATIVES – LED BY COMMUNITY VOLUNTARY SECTOR**

**Read:** Report from Mrs H McKee, Community Planning Manager, dated 13 August 2015, regarding Community Planning Pilot Initiatives. (Copy circulated)

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Burns, seconded by Councillor W Clarke to approve support and linkage with Community Planning Pilot Initiatives led by Community Voluntary Sector Organisations.

The Chief Executive returned to the chamber at this stage – 4.30pm

**SPR/115/2015:- DATAHUB AND ELECTED MEMBERS INFORMATION SYSTEM**

**Read:** Report from Mrs H McKee, Community Planning Manager, dated 13 August 2015, regarding datahub and Elected Members information system. (EMIS) (Copy circulated)

**Agreed:** **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Burns, seconded by Councillor Kimmins to approve, in principle, the budget for Datahub and Elected Member Information System. The cost for datahub will be dependent on economies of scale depending on the number of participating Councils/organisations with the one-off cost for EMIS being £11,135.**

**SPR/116/2015:- OUTLINE COMMUNITY PLANNING ENGAGEMENT PLAN – PHASE 2**

**Read:** Report from Mrs H McKee, Community Planning Manager, dated 13 August 2015, regarding Outline Community Planning Engagement Plan – phase 2. (Copy circulated)

**Agreed:** **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Burns, seconded by Councillor Donnelly to approve the outline community engagement plan with the proviso that more health issues are taken into consideration such as suicide/mental health issues/homelessness.**

**SPR/117/2015:- OUTLINE COMMUNITY PLANNING ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMME**

**Read:** Report from Mrs H McKee, Community Planning Manager, dated 13 August 2015, regarding Outline Community Planning Engagement Programme. (Copy circulated)

**Agreed:** **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Burns, seconded by Councillor Donnelly to accept the outline community engagement programme and pursue the acquisition of pop-ups and fleeces for officers in order to give Community Planning a brand identity.**

**SPR/118/2015:- REPORT OF COMMUNITY PLANNING WORKSHOP ON 18 JUNE 2015**

**Read:** Report from Mrs H McKee, Community Planning Manager, dated 13 August 2015, regarding community planning workshop for Elected Members, Officers and Partner Organisations. (Copy circulated)

**Noted:** It was agreed to note the report of Community Planning Workshop held on 18 June 2015.

**SPR/119/2015:- TRAINING FOR DEA OFFICERS**

**Read:** Report from Mrs H McKee, Community Planning Manager, dated 13 August 2015, regarding training for DEA Officers and other relevant Officers. (Copy circulated)

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Donnelly, seconded by Councillor Burns to approve the training for DEA and other relevant Officers.

**FOR DISCUSSION**

**SPR/120/2015:- HEAD FORESHORE LEASE – ISSUE AT ROSTREVOR FORESHORE**

**Read:** Report from Mr E Curtis, dated 13 August 2015, regarding Head Foreshore Lease – issue at Rostrevor Foreshore. (Copy circulated)

Mr Curtis presented the report above stating that Council was presently negotiating with the Crown Estate Commissioners to renew the Head Lease for Foreshore at Newry River and Carlingford Lough, Moygannon, Rostrevor and Ballinran. He recommended that Crotlieve DEA Councillors should meet on the site.

Councillor Quinn suggested any interested Councillor should be permitted to attend the site meeting.

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor Quinn to convene a Crotlieve Briefing Meeting. Open to all interested Councillors on the site at Rostrevor Foreshore to discuss the outstanding issues.

**SPR/121/2015:- REQUEST FOR 2 NO ADDITIONAL EASEMENTS – ANNALONG MARINE PARK**

**Read:** Report from Mr E McManus/Mrs C McKenna, dated 13 August 2015, regarding request for 2 no additional easements at Annalong Marine Park. (Copy circulated)

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Quinn, seconded by Councillor W Clarke to agree request for 2 no additional easements at Annalong Marine Park.

**SPR/122/2015:- SISTER CITY SUMMIT APRIL 2016**

**Read:** Report from Mr E Curtis, Director of Strategic Planning and Performance, dated 13 August 2015, regarding Sister City Summit April 2016. (Copy circulated)

Mr Curtis presented his report on the above and recommended that the Committee agree to issue invitations to Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Sister City partners so they can participate in the Sister City Summit in April 2016.

Members discussed the issue at length and it was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Carr, seconded by Councillor Ruane to participate and host part of the Sister City Summit in April 2016. It was also agreed that Council explore all relationships with the different cities that exist across America.

Councillor Carr proposed a small reception be hosted for visitors to the District from Albany. This was seconded by Councillor Ruane.

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Carr, seconded by Ruane to participate and host part of the Sister City Summit in April 2016.

**It was also agreed that Council explore all relationships with the different cities that exist across America.**

**It was further agreed on the proposal of Councillor Carr, seconded by Councillor Ruane that a small reception be hosted for visitors to the District from Albany.**

**SPR/123/2015:- STREAMING/BROADCASTING OF COUNCIL MEETINGS – COST UPDATE**

**Read:** Minutes from Down District Council when discussions on Streaming/Broadcasting of Council Meetings took place – 5<sup>th</sup> August 2013 and 30<sup>th</sup> April 2013 (Copy circulated)

Mr O'Rourke advised Down District Council had carried out extensive research into the streaming/broadcasting of Council Meetings in 2013 and the costs were as outlined in the minutes circulated.

Members discussed the issue stating this required more time to discuss in Party groupings to investigate cheaper ways of streaming/broadcasting Council Meetings. It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor W Clarke, seconded by Councillor Walker to send the matter to the Party Representatives for further discussion and investigation.

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor W Clarke, seconded by Councillor Walker to send the matter to the Party Representatives for further discussion and investigation.

**SPR/124/2015:-** **NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL/LOUTH COUNTY COUNCIL – FUTURE PROPOSALS RE SECRETARIAT**

**Read:** Correspondence received from East Border Region (EBR) regarding future proposals regarding secretariat of Newry, Mourne and Down District and Louth County Councils. (Copy circulated)

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor W Clarke to accept the future secretariat proposals, from EBR which would result in EBR providing secretariat support to the Louth Newry and Mourne and Down Joint Committee.

**SPR/125/2015:-** **APSE AWARDS AND SEMINAR – FREE DELEGATE PLACE – REFERRED FROM COUNCIL MEETING – 3 AUGUST 2015**

**Read:** Correspondence received from APSE regarding free delegate place for awards and seminar – previously discussed and referred from Council Meeting of 3 August 2015 (Copy circulated)

Mr Curtis advised this item had been referred from the Council Meeting held on 3 August 2015 for decision at this Committee on which, if any, Councillor should attend utilising the free delegate place.

Mr Curtis stated the delegate place is free however flights, transport and hotel costs would need to be paid by the Council.

Councillor Walker proposed that Councillor Andrews be nominated to avail of the free delegate place. This was seconded by Councillor Brown.

During discussions, Members asked what benefits the Council would gain by attending the conference.

Mrs Mackin advised APSE provide information regarding provision of service, benchmarking and up-to-date legislation and she would use them as a source of reference.

The Chairperson put the proposal to a vote, the results of which were as follows:

**FOR: 9**  
**AGAINST: 5**  
**ABSTENTIONS: 0**

The proposal was **CARRIED**.

**Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Brown that Councillor Andrews avail of the free delegate place at the APSE Awards and Seminar.**

**SPR/126/2015:- AMBULANCE PARKING – ORDER OF MALTA**

**Read:** Correspondence received from Order of Malta Ireland, dated 16 June 2015, regarding request for provision of ambulance parking. (Copy circulated)

Mr Curtis advised the Order of Malta had requested permission to park their ambulance on Council-owned land in Newry.

**Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Burns, seconded by Councillor W Clarke to grant permission for Order of Malta to park their ambulance on Council-owned land in Newry with location to be agreed, subject to suitability.**

**MISCELLANEOUS**

**SPR/127/2015:- PROGRESS REPORT RE SOUTHERN RELIEF ROAD**

The Chief Executive advised the application submitted by DRD was unsuccessful however DRD had committed to investigate the possibility of EU funding. He stated this item could be added to the agenda for the Special Council Meeting with TransportNI officials at the end of August.

**Agreed: The update on Southern Relief Road was noted. It was agreed the matter of Southern Relief Road be added to the agenda for the Special Council Meeting with TransportNI officials at the end of August.**

**SPR/128/2015:- OFF-STREET CAR PARKING**

**Read:** Report from Mr J McBride, Change Manager, dated 13 August 2015 regarding Off-Street Parking. (Copy circulated)

Mr Curtis presented the above report and recommended that the Committee note the contents and consider and agree to the next steps. He advised officers would be compiling a report on the operation of off-street parking.

Councillors discussed the issue at length and raised issues around the approach taken by traffic wardens during festivals such as the Festival of Flight.

Councillor Enright advised Moray and other Councils in Scotland have done away with traffic wardens and perhaps officers could investigate how country towns like those in Scotland have been able to dispense with parking wardens and charges.

**Noted:** The report into off-street parking was noted.

**SPR/129/2015:- REPORT RE GUIDANCE FROM LOCAL GOVERNMENT & LOCAL GOVERNMENT AUDITOR**

**Read:** Report from Mr J McBride, Change Manager, dated 13 August 2015, regarding DoE Guidance for Local Government Performance Improvement & Assessment Arrangements for Newry, Mourne and Down District Council for 2015-16. (Copy circulated)

**Noted:** The report was noted.

**SPR/130/2015:- INVITATION TO MARK THE UNITED NATIONS 70<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY YEAR**

**Read:** Correspondence received from United Nations Association, Northern Ireland asking that Council consider marking the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the United Nations. (Copy circulated)

**Noted:** The correspondence was noted.

**SPR/131/2015:- RELEASE OF INHIBITION ON TITLE – SHANE O’NEILLS GFC, CAMLOUGH**

**Read:** Report from Mrs C McKenna, Administration, regarding release of inhibition on title, Shane O’Neills GFC, Camlough. (Copy circulated)

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Burns, seconded by Councillor Kimmins to accept the officer’s recommendation.

## **FOR NOTING**

### **SPR/132/2015:- MEMBER WORKSHOP - POWERPOINT**

**Read:** Presentation from Member Workshop held on 29 May 2015. (Copy circulated)

**Noted:** **The presentation was noted.**

### **SPR/133/2015:- DONEGAL COUNTY COUNCIL**

**Read:** Presentation from Member Workshop held on 29 May 2015. (Copy circulated)

**Noted:** **The presentation was noted.**

## **CORPORATE SERVICES – HUMAN RESOURCES**

### **SPR/134/2015:- CHAIRPERSON INTERNSHIPS**

**Read:** Report from Mr L Hannaway, Chief Executive. 13 August 2015, re: Office of Chairperson – Intern Positions. (Copy circulated)

Mrs Miskelly presented the report advising officers had hoped funding would be received to off-set costs associated with the intern positions. However, in the current financial environment, the availability of government funded schemes to training providers was under review and funding could not be guaranteed.

Councillor Burns proposed that Council proceed with the scheme. Councillor Craig in seconding the proposal asked for an amendment that the matter be re-investigated if funding is not forthcoming.

It was agreed that the matter be brought to the group leaders meeting before going to full Council for ratification.

**Agreed:** **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Burns, seconded by Councillor Craig that Council proceed with the internships on the proviso that the matter be re-investigated if funding is not forthcoming.**

**It was further agreed that the matter be brought to the Party Representatives Forum when funding possibilities were clarified prior to proceeding to Council for ratification.**

**SPR/135/2015:- LOCAL GOVERNMENT PENSION SCHEME NMDDC DISCRETIONARY POLICIES FOR APPROVAL**

**Read:** Report from Mrs C Miskelly, Assistant Director Corporate Services (Human Resources), dated 13 August 2015, regarding Local Government Pension Scheme (Northern Ireland) 2014 Regulations and other related Regulations (Copy circulated)

**Agreed:** The report was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Kimmins, seconded by Councillor Walker.

**SPR/136/2015:- CONSULTATION DOCUMENT DOE DRAFT LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION (COMPENSATION FOR DIMINUTION OF EMOLUMENTS) REGULATIONS 2015**

**Read:** Report from Mrs C Miskelly, Assistant Director Corporate Services (Human Resources), dated 13 August 2015, regarding DoE Draft Local Government Reorganisation (Compensation for Diminution of Emoluments) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015, Consultation Document, for Noting & Approval (Copy circulated).

**Agreed:** The report was noted and agreed unanimously.

**SPR/137/2015:- APPOINTMENT OF IT PARTNER**

**Read:** Report from Mr R Dowey, Head of Finance, dated 13 August 2015, regarding Appointment of an IT Partner for the Council via a Central Purchasing Body. (Copy circulated)

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Kimmins, seconded by Councillor Ó'Muiri to accept the officer's recommendation to appoint an IT Partner for the Council via a Central Purchasing Body.

The Meeting adjourned at 5.15pm.

The Meeting did then resume at 6.00pm.

**SPR/138/2015:- DISTRICT ELECTORAL AREA FORA – DEA POSITION PAPER**

**Read:** Report from Mr M Lipsett, Director of Active and Healthy Communities, dated 13 August 2015, regarding District Electoral Area Fora (copy circulated).

Mr Lipsett presented the paper which recommended that the Committee agree to establish Fora Operating Model across Newry, Mourne and Down District in accordance with circulated scope, governance, terms of reference and Standing Orders.

Members discussed the issue at length with the following queries being asked:

- Community representation should not be restricted to constituted groups as isolated non-representative rural groups need to have a say on the issues that exist within DEAs also.
- How will the DEAs be resourced especially the rural DEAs?
- Roads Service may not pick up on strategic issues at a local DEA level, how will Council ensure the strategic issues are still recognised?
- Will DEA officers have the power to pursue issues in between meetings?
- How are representatives going to be selected to sit on the DEAs?

Mr Lipsett and the Chief Executive responded to the queries as follows:

- Recruitment of community representatives will be presented in a paper brought to the first meeting of the DEA.
- There are no resources allocated to DEAs at present and this will be a matter going forward for DEAs to plan how they will communicate and consult. Transport may be something that can be investigated.
- Consultation with Roads Service will still take place on strategic issues, at Council level. DEA meetings would only deal with local DEA issues.
- Officers will have work plans arising out of DEA meetings and Council will act and respond to critical, large scale issues as the corporate body.
- The level of detail regarding recruiting representatives has not been worked out as yet.

**Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Burns seconded by Councillor Walker, to approve the recommendation, to work closely with organisations such as County Down Rural Community Network (CDRCN) to identify potential community representatives, with DEAs being permitted to choose up to 8 community representatives depending on their requirements.**

The meeting concluded at 6.20pm.

For consideration at the Council Meeting to be held on Monday 6 July 2015.

**Signed: Councillor Robert Burgess**  
**Chairperson**

**Signed:**

**Eddy Curtis**

**Director of Strategic Planning and Performance**