

## **NEWRY, MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**NMD/AGM/**

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### **Minutes of Annual Meeting of Council held on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2017 at 6pm in the Mourne Room, Downshire Civic Centre, Downpatrick**

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**In the Chair:** Councillor G Fitzpatrick 6.00pm-6.20pm  
Councillor R Mulgrew 6.20pm-6.40pm

**In attendance: (Councillors)**

Councillor T Andrews	Councillor P Brown
Councillor R Burgess	Councillor S Burns
Councillor M Carr	Councillor C Casey
Councillor W Clarke	Councillor G Craig
Councillor L Devlin	Councillor S Doran
Councillor C Enright	Councillor G Hanna
Councillor V Harte	Councillor H Harvey
Councillor T Hearty	Councillor D Hyland
Councillor L Kimmins	Councillor M Larkin
Councillor J Macauley	Councillor D McAteer
Councillor O McMahan	Councillor A McMurray
Councillor B Ó Muirí	Councillor B Quinn
Councillor M Ruane	Councillor G Stokes
Councillor D Taylor	Councillor JJ Tinnelly
Councillor B Walker	

**(Officials)**

Mr L Hannaway, Chief Executive  
Mrs D Carville, Director of Corporate Services  
Mr M Lipsett, Director of Active and Healthy Communities  
Mr C O'Rourke, Director of Regulatory and Technical Services  
Mrs M Ward, Director of Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism  
Mrs E McParland, Democratic Services Manager  
Mrs L Dillon, Democratic Services Officer  
Miss S Taggart, Democratic Services Officer  
Mrs C Taylor, Democratic Services Officer

### **AGM/1/2017 APOLOGIES AND CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS**

Apologies were received from Councillors Bailie, Byrne, Curran, Loughran, Murnin, Reilly and Trainor.

The Chairperson, Councillor Fitzpatrick, expressed her condolences to the family of the road worker who had died tragically following an accident outside Forkhill. She also expressed her condolences to the

family of the motorcyclist who had died following an accident in Ballymartin.

The Chairperson thanked the public stating she had a fantastic year in office and enjoyed every minute. She thanked the Council staff, in particular the Democratic Services team, Directors and Chief Executive for their work, help and guidance throughout her year as Chairperson. She also thanked her party colleagues and the wider SDLP community for putting their faith in her to fulfil the role of First Citizen. She stated her year in office was tremendous, enjoyable, heart-rending, thoughtful and tough at times. However she had met so many people from all across the District and hoped she had represented all sections of the community. She wished the new Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson a good year in office.

The Deputy Chairperson, Councillor Craig, stated it had been an honour to serve the District during the year and he thanked the Chairperson for her hard work and the manner in which she carried out her duties. He thanked the Chief Executive for his help and support and the Democratic Services team along with his party colleagues and all Members within the chamber for their assistance and support throughout the year.

The Chief Executive thanked the Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson for their efforts over the last 12 months. He said the Chairperson had adapted to the role and the words of appreciation she sent to staff she had worked with over the year were very much valued by the staff.

Councillors Stokes, Taylor, Hyland, Brown, Ruane, Andrews and Harvey paid tribute to the work undertaken by Councillors Fitzpatrick and Craig during their tenure as Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson.

#### **AGM/2/2017 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

#### **AGM/3/2017 TO APPOINT MEMBERS TO STATUTORY POSITIONS OF RESPONSIBILITY**

The Chairperson called upon Councillor Ruane as nominating officer for SF to nominate a Councillor for the position of Chairperson of Council for 2017/18.

Councillor Ruane nominated Councillor Roisin Mulgrew who subsequently confirmed her acceptance of the post.

The Chairperson called upon Councillor Ruane, as nominating officer for SF, to nominate a Councillor for the position of Deputy-Chairperson of Council for 2017/18.

Councillor Ruane nominated Councillor Willie Clarke who subsequently accepted the post.

The Chairperson stated that Councillor Mulgrew and Councillor Clarke had been duly nominated as Chairperson and Deputy-Chairperson respectively of Newry, Mourne and Down District Council for the year 2017/18.

Councillor Mulgrew stated it was a great honour to be appointed as Chairperson of Newry, Mourne and Down District Council. She thanked her family and members from the Slieve Gullion area who had made it possible for her to take on the position. She stated as Chairperson she would have the opportunity to pursue and achieve for all the people in the District. The uncertain future of Daisy Hill and the challenges that lay ahead in terms of Brexit, would be high on her agenda to work with the community to challenge.

Councillor Mulgrew stated she would be a Chairperson for all and would work hard as Chair, particularly for the volunteers and community workers in the District who work tirelessly to organise festivals, fundraise, help with care of disadvantaged people and run the youth clubs and sports clubs. She advised her nominated charities would reflect the network of these volunteers that were rooted in towns and villages and would promote health, wellbeing and togetherness.

Councillor Mulgrew congratulated Councillor Clarke on his appointment as Deputy Chair, stating he was a very talented and dedicated Councillor who would provide her with enduring support in the year ahead.

Councillor Clarke congratulated Councillor Mulgrew on becoming the District's First Citizen and stated he would do all he could to support her, as her Deputy-Chair. He congratulated Councillor Fitzpatrick on the high energy role she undertook as Chairperson and thanked Councillor Craig for his role as Deputy Chairperson, stating he would be an excellent Chair of the Planning Committee. He thanked his party for the nomination to the role stating he was honoured and humbled to be Deputy Chair of Council. He set out his priorities for the year in working with Councillor Mulgrew to try to continue the healing process in communities and work with new citizens and ethnic groups within the District. He also stated he wished to work with disadvantaged groups who are switched off from the political process.

Party leaders took this opportunity to wish the new Chairperson and Deputy-Chairperson best wishes in their incoming year.

The Chairperson called upon the nominating officers of each of the parties to nominate to the following statutory positions of responsibility and the following nominations were made by the respective nominating officers and formally accepted by the nominees:

Chair of AHC	Councillor Walker
Deputy Chair of AHC	Councillor Taylor
Chair of ERT	Councillor Byrne
Deputy Chair of ERT	Councillor Hyland
Chair of RTS	Councillor Trainor
Deputy Chair of RTS	Councillor Harte
Chair of SPR	Councillor Hearty
Deputy Chair of SPR	Councillor McMurray
Chair of Planning	Councillor Craig
Deputy Chair of Planning	Councillor Loughran

**Councillor Fitzpatrick vacated the Chair at this point in the meeting.**

**Councillors Mulgrew and Clarke assumed the Chairperson and Deputy-Chairperson roles at this point.**

#### **AGM/4/2017 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR OF PCSP**

**The Chairperson called upon Councillor Craig as nominating officer of DUP to nominate a Chairperson for the PCSP.**

**Councillor Craig nominated Councillor Harvey as Chairperson of the PCSP, who formally accepted the post.**

**Agreed: It was agreed that Councillor Harvey would become Chairperson of PCSP for the term commencing 25 June 2017.**

#### **AGM/5/2017 REPORT OF MOCK ANNUAL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 18 MAY 2017**

**Read: Report of the Mock Annual Meeting held on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2017 (copy circulated)**

**Agreed: The report was agreed as an accurate record on the proposal of Councillor Hyland, seconded by Councillor Enright.**

**Agreed: The recommendations arising out of the Report were unanimously agreed, with Members being appointed to Committees; external Bodies and Organisations; Council Project Boards and Forums; Task and Finish Working Groups and Thematic Partnerships, as detailed in the appendices attached.**

The Chief Executive called upon the Unionist grouping to nominate Members to the Somme Advisory Council for 2017-2018.

Councillor Craig proposed Councillor Hanna and Walker. This was seconded by Councillor Taylor.

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Craig, seconded by Councillor Walker, that Councillors Hanna and Walker should be the Council's representatives on the Somme Advisory Council for 2017-2018.

**AGM/6/2017 TO AGREE SCHEME OF ALLOWANCES PAYABLE TO COUNCILLORS FROM JUNE 2017**

**Read:** Draft Scheme of Allowances payable to Councillors from June 2017 (copy circulated)

**Agreed:** The draft Scheme of Allowances payable to Councillors from June 2017 as presented was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor D McAteer.

**AGM/7/2017 TIMETABLE OF MEETINGS**

**Read:** Timetable of Meetings for the year 2017/18 (copy circulated)

Mrs Carville advised the Audit Committee Independent Chairperson had asked that the Audit Committee meeting scheduled for December 2017 be moved to January 2018.

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor Burgess to approve the Timetable of Meetings for the year 2017/18, subject to the Audit Committee meeting scheduled for December being moved to January 2018.

**AGM/8/2017 TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR COMMITTEES**

**Read:** Report from Director of Corporate Services regarding Review of Terms of Reference for Committees (copy circulated)

Mrs Carville advised it was necessary to make adjustments to the Terms of Reference of the Strategy, Policy and Resources and Active and Healthy Communities Committees with effect from 1 June 2017.

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor Burgess to accept the adjustments to the Terms of

**Reference of the Strategy, Policy and Resources and Active and Healthy Communities Committees, as detailed in the Officer's Report, with effect from 1 June 2017.**

There being no further business, the Meeting concluded at **6.40pm**.

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Chairperson**

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Chief Executive**