

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

Ref: AHC/2016

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### **Minutes of Active and Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on Monday 18 January 2016 at 6.00pm in the Commedagh Room, Downshire Civic Centre, Downpatrick**

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**Chairperson:** Councillor L Kimmins

**In attendance:** **(Councillors)**  
Councillor S Burns Councillor C Enright  
Councillor G Fitzpatrick Councillor H Harvey  
Councillor K Loughran Councillor D Taylor  
Councillor W Walker

**Non-Committee Members:** Councillor Andrews

**Officials in attendance:** Mr M Lipsett, Director of Active and Healthy Communities  
Mr E Devlin, Assistant Director of Active and Healthy Communities (Health and Wellbeing)  
Mr R Moore, Assistant Director of Active and Healthy Communities (Leisure and Sport)  
Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director for Community Engagement  
Mrs E McParland, Democratic Services Manager  
Miss S Taggart, Democratic Services Officer

**Also in attendance:** Mr D McHugh, Clanrye Family Foundations

#### **AHC/1/2016: APOLOGIES AND CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS**

Apologies were received from Councillors Carr, Devlin, Harte, O'Muíri and Sharvin.

Mr Lipsett advised Mrs Janine Hillen had been recruited as Assistant Director for Community Engagement.

The Chairperson informed the Committee of a number of letters of thanks to staff within Leisure Services, copies of which were available for Members' information.

The Chairperson made reference to the tragic death of Ellen Finnegan at the weekend in Castlewellan and asked that a letter of condolence be sent to her father on behalf of the Council.

Mrs McParland advised a letter had been organised by the Chairperson of Council to Mr Finnegan as well as the family of Ella Trainor who tragically lost her life recently.

**AHC/2/2016:            DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Burns declared an interest in Item 8 on the agenda – 2015-2016 Community Facilities Running Costs, Review of Agreed List and Future Allocations as his brother was a member of Castlewellan Community Centre.

**AHC/3/2016:            ACTION SHEET OF THE ACTIVE AND HEALTHY COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 21 DECEMBER 2015**

**Read:**            Action Sheet of the Active and Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on 21 December 2015. (Copy circulated).

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

**PRESENTATIONS**

**AHC/4/2016            CLANRYE FAMILY FOUNDATIONS**

The Chairperson welcomed Mr Dan McHugh from Clanrye Family Foundations and invited him to make his presentation to the Committee.

Mr McHugh thanked the Chairperson for the invitation to present to the Committee. (A copy of the presentation is appended to these minutes). He stated Clanrye Family Foundations have a wide remit in terms of their work.

Mr McHugh advised that Clanrye's Family Foundations programme's target audience is 16-24 year olds who are not in education, employment or training and they also provide family support to 13-16 year olds and advised they are currently working with 30 families. The support they provide was in the areas of nutrition and health; wellbeing; counselling; living with addiction; money management, dealing with debt; benefits advice and anger/conflict management.

The Chairperson thanked Mr McHugh for his informative presentation and invited questions from the Members.

Members asked the following questions:

- What would be the main source of referrals to the programme?
- How long was the funding in place for the programme?
- Was it difficult to engage with some young people?

Mr McHugh responded to the queries as follows:

- Referrals come from most of the key agencies such as Job Centre, Youth Justice, Social Services, Probation Board, PSNI Community Liaison and Surestart. Although recently the power of social media is resulting in referrals coming from grandparents, aunts and uncles of vulnerable young people.
- The funding is in place up to 2018 with a possible 2 year extension.
- Some young people do need a little more support however with the workers' backgrounds in youthwork, there has been a good success rate of engaging with young people so far within the programme.

The Chairperson thanked Mr McHugh for his presentation.

## **AHC/5/2016                      DEPARTMENTAL BUSINESS PLAN**

Read:                      Active & Healthy Communities Directorate Business Plan 2015-2016  
(copy circulated).

Mr Lipsett presented the Business Plan to the Committee highlighting the following areas:

- SAND (Sports Association Newry and Down) have had 370 sports clubs in the district with many registered so far and the launch will take place Wednesday night in Canal Court, Newry.
- Down Your Street campaign – expansion on this and an item on the campaign would be tabled at the next Committee meeting.
- Senior Environmental Health Officer would be assigned to each DEA.
- At least 1 social enterprise project would be undertaken annually.

Members were given an opportunity to ask questions as follows:

- Was there a community engagement strategy in place?
- Was the plan open to suggestions for improvement?

Mr Lipsett responded to the queries as follows:

- There was no strategy in place at present as it was envisaged that each DEA Fora would issue their own communications strategy.
- Yes the plan is open to suggestions for improvement. This was only a year one business plan and Members are free to influence the next two year's business plans.

The Chairperson thanked Mr Lipsett for his presentation.

## **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

### **AHC/6/2016      PCSP UPDATE REPORT**

Read:            Report from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director for Community Engagement regarding a PCSP Update Report (Copy circulated)

Mrs Hillen advised the minutes and report of the previous PCSP Meeting and Policing Committee Meeting were attached for noting and the Maintenance and Warranty contract for CCTV is currently due for renewal.

**Noted:                    The PCSP Update Report was noted.**

### **AHC/7/2016      DEA FORA UPDATE REPORT**

Read:            Report from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director for Community Engagement regarding DEA Fora Update Report (Copy circulated)

Mrs Hillen advised each of the DEA Forums have held initial planning workshops with a range of key statutory partners and feedback and priorities would be identified to inform local action plans.

Mrs Hillen asked that the Committee note the update report and consider the recommendation received from the Crotlieve DEA Forum that the 'relevant Council department explore the possibility of developing the unsuitable land at Kilbroney Graveyard for additional car parking' be forwarded to the Regulatory and Technical Services Committee.

**Agreed:                    It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Fitzpatrick that the request from the Crotlieve DEA Forum be forwarded to the Regulatory and Technical Services Committee for decision.**

As Councillor Burns had previously declared an interest in this item, he left the meeting at this stage.

### **AHC/8/2016      2015-2016 COMMUNITY FACILITIES RUNNING COSTS, REVIEW OF AGREED LIST AND FUTURE ALLOCATIONS**

Read:            Report from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director for Community Engagement regarding 2015-16 Community Facilities Running Costs, Review of Agreed List and Future Allocations (Copy circulated)

Mr Lipsett provided some background to the report stating the Shadow Council had agreed allocations for community facilities through the rates process and subsequently agreed that the status quo previously held with organisations would be transferred for the year 2015-16.

Mr Lipsett stated since the agreement, representations had been received requesting that Ballyholland Community Association be added to the current community facilities allocation list as they had previously been on the list in the legacy Newry and Mourne District Council.

Mr Lipsett advised the budget for financial assistance has been fully expended and there are a number of other facilities across the District which have also not been added to the list. Therefore he provided 2 options to the Committee with the recommendation that the Committee should not add Ballyholland Community Association to the funded facilities list and should proceed with implementation of Option 1 – to continue with the allocations in line with the reviewed and approved list for one further financial year.

Councillor Fitzpatrick advised Ballyholland Community Association should have been included in the scheme and asked whether anything could be done for the group at this stage.

Mr Lipsett advised the Association's Business Case had showed the group would cover their costs. However he, along with the DEA Co-ordinator, would work with the group and help them to apply for the tranches of money that would be forthcoming in the next few weeks.

Councillor Enright raised an issue about the villages within the District which did not have a designated Community Centre, instead using sports halls etc. as a community hub and whether these organisations would be able to apply for funding in the future.

Mr Lipsett advised this would be reviewed by the DEA Fora which would decide what was required within each DEA area.

**Agreed:**                      **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Fitzpatrick to accept the officer's recommendation to proceed with the implementation of Option 1 – to continue with the allocations in line with the reviewed and approved list for one further financial year and noting that Council Officers would liaise with Ballyholland Community Association on applications for other potential sources of funding.**

Councillor Burns re-entered the meeting at this stage.

## **HEALTH & WELLBEING**

**AHC/9/2016**

**PRIVATE RENTED SECTOR CONSULTATION**

Read: Report from Mr E Devlin, Assistant Director for Health and Wellbeing, regarding Consultation on Review of the Private Rented Sector (copy circulated).

Mr Devlin advised the Department's Private Rented Branch have published a consultation document on the review of the role and regulation of the Private Rented Sector with a view to considering the current and potential future role of the sector and assessing the effectiveness of current regulation.

Mr Devlin recommended that the Committee agree to approve the consultation response as presented within the report and return same to the Department of Social Development.

**Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Loughran, seconded by Councillor Taylor to approve the consultation response as presented.**

#### **AHC/10/2106      ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE CONSULTATION**

Read: Report from Mr E Devlin, Assistant Director for Health and Wellbeing, regarding Environmental Governance in Northern Ireland (copy circulated).

Mr Devlin advised the Department of Environment had sought the views of key stakeholders on the issue of environmental governance in August 2011 and, at that time, a significant majority of respondents expressed a preference for an independent agency, however this did not proceed at that time.

Mr Devlin recommended that the consultation response as presented within the report be presented to the Department of Environment.

**Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Harvey, seconded by Councillor Burns to approve the consultation response and return same to the Department of Environment.**

#### **AHC/11/2016      CLIMATE CHANGE LEGISLATION CONSULTATION**

Read: Report from Mr E Devlin, Assistant Director for Health and Wellbeing, regarding Discussion Document on Climate Change Legislation (copy circulated).

Mr Devlin advised the Department of Environment had issued a pre-consultation paper seeking view on the need for Northern Ireland Climate Change legislation in March 2013 and the purpose of the current discussion paper was to update stakeholders and the public on developments since that date.

Mr Devlin recommended that the consultation response as presented within the report be presented to the Department of Environment.

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Enright, seconded by Councillor Burns to approve the consultation response and return same to the Department of Environment.

## **LEISURE AND SPORTS**

### **AHC/12/2016      PROPOSED OVERSPEND FOR VARIOUS WORKS TO NEWCASTLE CENTRE**

**Read:** Report from Mr K Scullion regarding a proposed overspend for various works to Newcastle Centre (copy circulated).

Mr Lipsett advised that due to a predicted underspend in the Council's capital budget for 2015/16, officers had been asked to consider if any capital works required for the Newcastle Centre in 2016/17 could be brought forward for completion before the end of March 2016. The table presented provided a list of works at a cost of £64,000.

Mr Lipsett stated that as there was no budget for these works in this financial year, it would result in an overspend of £64,000. However given the predicted underspend in the Capital Budget, this would not result in an actual overspend within the overall Capital Budget for 2015/16.

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Burns, seconded by Councillor Enright to approve the overspend of approximately £64,000 in this year's Capital Budget for various works to Newcastle Centre.

## **REPORTS FROM OFFICERS**

### **AHC/13/2016      LAND AT DUNLEATH PARK, DOWNPATRICK**

**Read:** Report from Mrs A Robb, Assistant Director, Corporate Services, Administration regarding Land at Dunleath Park, Downpatrick (copy circulated).

Mr Lipsett advised that Council had been approached by a local commercial property consultancy that had advised it had been instructed to dispose of the freehold title of lands at Dunleath Park, Downpatrick.

Mr Lipsett stated approval was being sought for officers to pursue the acquisition of the freehold title to lands at Dunleath Park, Downpatrick, subject to any agreement on the valuation being brought back to the Committee for approval.

**Agreed:**                    **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Burns, seconded by Councillor Harvey to grant approval to officers to pursue the acquisition of the freehold title to lands at Dunleath Park, Downpatrick, subject to any agreement on the valuation being brought back to the Committee for approval.**

There being no further business the meeting ended at 7.05pm.

For consideration at Meeting of Newry, Mourne and Down District Council to be held on Monday 1 February 2016.

Signed:                    Councillor L Kimmins  
Chairperson

Signed:                    Mr M Lipsett  
Director of Active and Healthy Communities