

Minutes were approved at the Council Meeting held on 4 April 2016, subject to Councillor Devlin advising she had been surprised that the Newcastle Centre had been closed on St. Patrick's Day and had raised concerns regarding toilet provision – AHC/44/2016 – Leisure and Sport Facility Arrangement for Public Holiday – and this had not been recorded in the minutes.

**NEWRY, MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**Ref: AHC/2016**

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**Minutes of Active and Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on  
Monday 21 March 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 M Carr  
Councillor L Devlin Councillor V Harte  
Councillor H Harvey Councillor K Loughran  
Councillor B Ó'Muirí Councillor D Taylor  
Councillor G Sharvin Councillor W Walker

**Non-Committee Members:** Councillor P Clarke

**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)  
Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director for Community Engagement  
Ms J McCann, Area Community Development Officer  
Mr P Brannigan, Estates Officer  
Mrs C Taylor, Democratic Services Officer

**AHC/33/2016: APOLOGIES AND CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS**

Apologies were received from Councillor G Fitzpatrick and Mr R Moore, Assistant Director of Active and Healthy Communities (Leisure and Sport)

The Chairperson advised that Councillor Burns had requested to host a Sports Head Injury Conference.

Councillor Burns expressed his disappointment that a report had not been brought to the meeting and asked that this conference would take place before the end of the GAA season.

Mr Lipsett advised that under the governance arrangements, a detailed report illustrating value for money and Council's procurement

procedures was required. He advised he would bring back a report to the April Active and Healthy Communities Committee showing progress on this matter. He suggested SAND could be used to deliver such a proposal.

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Burns, seconded by Councillor Walker that the organisation of a Sports Head Injury Conference would be progressed with SAND and a progress report brought back to the April Committee meeting.

**AHC/34/2016: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**AHC/35/2016: ACTION SHEET OF THE ACTIVE AND HEALTHY COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 22 FEBRUARY 2016**

**Read:** Action Sheet of the Active and Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on 22 February 2016. (Copy circulated).

**AHC/20/2016 Lease of Carnbane Playing Fields, Bann Road, Castlewellan**

In response to Councillor Devlin's request for an update on the above matter, Mr Lipsett advised he had met with the Chairmen of both Castlewellan GAC and Castlewellan Town FC and had they had agreed to wait for Council's new policy regarding leasing of sports pitches, to make an application.

In response to Councillor Burns query, Mr Lipsett advised all other interested parties had been written to, but not all had responded at this point.

Councillor Devlin requested this item would be kept on the Action Sheet in order that a regular update could be provided.

**Agreed:** It was agreed that the matter regarding the Lease of Carnbane Playing Fields, Bann Road, Castlewellan, would be kept on the Action Sheet so that a regular update could be provided.

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

**AHC/36/2016 NEWRY STREET UNITE, SPACES AND PLACES APPLICATION**

**Read:** Report from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director of Community Engagement dated 21 March 2016 regarding Newry Street Unite – Space and Place Application (Copy circulated).

Councillor Sharvin asked what would happen if the application was unsuccessful. Mrs Hillen advised that liaison would take place with Space and Place around redesign of the project to fit within the budget.

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Burns, that:

- **NM&DDC agrees in principle to support the Newry Street Unite Project, subject to a successful application by the group to Councils Capital Grant Scheme for approximately £50,000 to match fund the letter of offer from Space and Place.**
- **Council agrees to provide assistance with:**
  - **Capacity building of the community association.**
  - **Drawing up legal documentation in relation to the overall project (including finalising lease arrangements).**
- **Council to maintain and insure the play area at completion of scheme.**

## **HEALTH AND WELLBEING**

**It was agreed to take the following item earlier in the meeting:**

### **AHC/37/2016      NUCLEAR FREE LOCAL AUTHORITIES (NFLA)**

**Read:** Report from Mr E Devlin, Assistant Director of Active and Healthy Communities (Health and Wellbeing) dated 21 March 2016 regarding Nuclear Free Local Authorities(Copy circulated).

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Burns, seconded by Councillor Ó'Muirí that Council remain members of Nuclear Free Local Authorities.

## **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

### **AHC/38/2016      NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL INTERCOMMUNITY YOUTH ARTS PROJECT**

Read: Report from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director of Community Engagement dated 21 March 2016 regarding Neighbourhood Renewal Intercommunity Youth Arts Project (Copy circulated).

**Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Harvey, seconded by Councillor Burns, that the following be approved:**

- **Use of the three centres for murals to be displayed on internal walls (Threeways, Whitegates, Loanda House).**
- **To have murals placed on boards and erected on:**
  - **Fencing at a local play area – Martins Lane.**
  - **Perimeter fencing at Derrybeg Community Centre.**
  - **Perimeter fencing at Drumalane football pitch.**
- **Council to cover costs associated with erection of murals.**

**AHC/39/2016      DEA FORA UPDATE REPORT**

Read: Report from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director of Community Engagement dated 21 March 2016 regarding DEA Fora Update Report (Copy circulated).

Mrs Hillen advised the first round of public DEA Fora meetings had been completed and had been well attended. She said the DEA nomination process was underway with a closing date of 9 April 2016.

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

**AHC/40/2016      DRAFT COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY**

Read: Report from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director of Community Engagement dated 21 March 2016 regarding Draft Community Engagement Strategy (Copy circulated).

**Agreed It was agreed on the suggestion of Councillor Burns the Draft Community Engagement Strategy would be distributed to DEA Chairs for discussion at the next DEA meetings.**

**AHC/41/2016      NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL CAPITAL PROJECTS (NEWRY)**

Read: Report from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director of Community Engagement and Sean McKevitt, Neighbourhood Renewal Officer Enterprise Employment and Regeneration dated 21 March 2016 regarding Neighbourhood Renewal Capital Projects (Newry) (Copy circulated).

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Harte, seconded by Councillor Ó'Muirí that the progression of 5 community projects be approved as follows, subject to securing necessary documentation and funding from DSD/NR and providing project management throughout:

- New community facility at Drumalane
- Upgrade at Meadow Kickabout Area
- Martins Lane Play Area
- Derrybeg BMX Project
- Raymond McCreesh Park

## **LEISURE AND SPORTS**

### **AHC/42/2016      REPORT ON ST. BRIGID'S BOXING CLUB FOR REMEDIAL WORKS**

**Read:** Report from Mr P Brannigan, Estates Officer/Mr K Scullion, Assistant Director of Facilities Management and Maintenance dated 21 March 2016, regarding the request received from St. Brigid's Boxing Club for remedial works to be carried out to the property.

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Harvey, seconded by Councillor Taylor, that the following be approved:

- The appointment of a Civil Engineer to inspect the entrance road, review and report on the issues and advise estimated costs to rectify where deemed appropriate.
- The appointment of a suitably qualified Electrician to test the street lights and report on their condition and provide estimated costs for repairs.

### **AHC/43/2016      REQUEST TO LEASE ANNSBOROUGH PLAYING FIELDS TO AUGHLISNAFIN GAA**

**Read:** Report from Mr M Lipsett dated 21 March 2016, regarding the request to lease Annsborough Playing Fields to Aughlisnafin GAA.

Councillor Burns asked if the request from Down GAA could be placed on the existing list of requests for leases of sports pitches pending the development of a policy for dealing with these requests.

Councillor Burns said the pitch was in reasonable condition, but was open at both ends and there was dog fouling evident. He said this would need to be made safe for children. He suggested the Director meet with Aughlisnafin GAA to define the boundary required and asked that an assessment be carried out on the car park which was in a very poor condition.

Councillor P Clarke concurred with Councillor Burns' comments.

**Agreed: It was agreed that:**

- The request from Down GAA would be placed on the list of requests for leases of sports pitches, pending the development of a policy for dealing with these requests.
- The car park at the GAA pitch at Annsborough Playing Fields.
- The Director meet with Aughlisnafin GAA to define the boundary required and a report be brought back to committee with details of the cost to make the pitch safe.

**AHC/44/2016 LEISURE AND SPORTS FACILITY ARRANGEMENT FOR PUBLIC HOLIDAY**

**Read:** Report from Mr R Moore, Assistant Director of Active and Healthy Communities (Leisure and Sport) dated 21 March 2016, regarding the Leisure and Sports Facility Arrangement for Public Holiday (copy circulated).

Mr Lipsett advised that the proposal was to open the leisure and sports facilities at the same days as they opened in previous years. He added that the proposal was to standardise opening times across the facilities with the exception of the Newcastle Leisure Centre as it needed to be open longer to cater for seasonal demand.

Councillor Sharvin raised concerns over the playpark beside the Ballymote Centre being closed on St. Patrick's Day, despite raising similar concerns last year with officers. Mr Lipsett undertook to investigate and respond to Councillor Sharvin.

Councillor Devlin referred to the overflow car park at Donard Park, Newcastle, saying she had been surprised that the Newcastle Centre had been closed on St. Patrick's Day and she expressed concerns around lack of toilet provision. Mr Lipsett undertook to bring back a report back to the April Committee Meeting regarding opening of Council's leisure and sports facilities on bank holidays for the entire year.

**Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Harvey, seconded by Councillor Ó'Muirí, that the public holiday operating arrangements for Leisure and Sport Facilities – Ballymote LC, Ballynahinch Centre, Bridge Centre, Down LC, Kilkeel LC, Newcastle LC, Newry LC, Newry SC, St. Colmans Sports Complex Newry, be adopted as detailed in the report.**

**Agreed:** It was further agreed that a report of all bank holiday arrangements for Council's Leisure and Sports facilities for the entire year be brought back to the April Committee meeting.

**AHC/45/2015      NEWRY LEISURE CENTRE PHASE 2 AND NEW DOWN LEISURE CENTRE SUPPLIER PROGRAMME**

**Read:** Report from Mr R Moore, Assistant Director of Active and Healthy Communities (Leisure and Sport) dated 21 March 2016, regarding the Newry Leisure Centre Phase 2 and new Down Leisure Centre Supplier Programme (copy circulated).

In response to a query from Councillor Sharvin, Mr Lipsett advised that the specialist equipment referred to in the report was equipment possibly required in the café, crèche and fitness suite. There had been nothing included in either capital project for the supply of fitness equipment or fit out of the crèche or café because there were a number of options available and that these would need to be subjected to a rigorous and detailed business assessment and brought back to Committee.

In response to a query from Councillor Burns, Mr Lipsett said it was a Council decision whether a café could be opened in the Downshire Civic Centre, and he undertook to bring a report back to Committee.

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Taylor, that officers commence the process to provide proposals on future supplier arrangements for crèche, café, soft play and fitness suite for NLC Phase 2 and the fitness suite for the new DLC along with providing options for decision on remaining specialist equipment needs.

**AHC/46/2016      SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT WITH ARMAGH, BANBRIDGE AND CRAIGAVON BOROUGH COUNCIL IN REGARD TO PHA FUNDED SERVICES 2016/17**

**Read:** Report from Mr E Devlin, Assistant Director of Active and Healthy Communities (Health and Wellbeing) regarding the Service Level Agreement with ABC Borough Council in regard to Public Health Agency funded services 2016/17 (copy circulated).

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Ó'Muirí, seconded by Councillor Burns, that authorisation be given to the Chief Executive to sign the Service Level Agreement with Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council in regard to Public Health Agency funded services 2016/17.

There being no further business the meeting ended at 6.40pm.

For consideration at Meeting of Newry, Mourne and Down District Council to be held on Monday 4 April 2016.

Signed: Councillor L Kimmins  
Chairperson

Signed: Mr M Lipsett  
Director of Active and Healthy Communities