

**NEWRY, MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Ref: AHC/2023

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**Minutes of Active and Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on  
Monday 23 January 2023 at 6.00pm in the Mourne Room, Downshire Civic  
Centre and via Microsoft Teams**

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**Chairperson:** Councillor H Gallagher (Chamber)

**In attendance in Chamber:** Councillor J Jackson  
Councillor A Lewis  
Councillor D McAteer  
Councillor G O'Hare  
Councillor G Sharvin

**In attendance via Teams:** Councillor J Brennan  
Councillor A Finnegan  
Councillor D Lee- Sarginor  
Councillor G Malone  
Councillor L McEvoy  
Councillor K McKeivitt  
Councillor J Tinnelly

**Non-Members  
in attendance on Teams:** Councillor D Curran  
Councillor O Hanlon  
Councillor M Larkin  
Councillor H McKee

**Officials in attendance  
in Chamber:** Mr E Devlin, Assistant Director, Health & Wellbeing  
Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement  
Mr P Tamati, Assistant Director, Leisure & Sport  
Mrs D Starkey, Democratic Services Officer

**Officials in attendance  
via Teams:** Mrs M Ward, Chief Executive  
Ms L Cummins, Democratic Services Officer

**AHC/001/2023:       APOLOGIES & CHAIRPERSON’S REMARKS**

There were no apologies.

The Chairperson thanked Translink, PSNI, NIFRS and The Southern Trust for assisting the Health and Wellbeing Department in running the annual Bee Safe event which was attended by 32 schools and over 1000 P7 pupils.

The Chairperson advised events would take place in the week commencing 6 February 2023 for schools in the legacy Down District Council area when vital information on mental wellbeing, home safety, fire safety, online safety and road safety would be provided.

Councillor’s Sharvin and Lewis referred to the upcoming Newry, Mourne and Down District Sports Awards and encouraged people from clubs and community groups across the District to put forward nominations to the award.

Councillor Sharvin congratulated Conor Gelston from Drumaness on receiving 4 3<sup>rd</sup> Place medals in the Commonwealth Powerlifting Championship in Auckland.

**AHC/002/2023:       DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**AHC/003/2023:       ACTION SHEET ARISING FROM ACTIVE & HEALTHY COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 19 DECEMBER 2022**

Read:                       Action sheet of the Active & Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on Monday 19 December 2022. **(Copy circulated)**.

*AHC/222/2022: Report on Cost of Living Initiatives*

Mr Devlin advised an update report on cost of living initiatives would be provided to the Active and Healthy Communities Committee in February 2023. Members were informed the first of the ‘Keeping Warm Well’ events had been held in Newry that day and was well supported with over 200 people in attendance and a further session was scheduled to take place in the Down Arts Centre on 30 January 2023.

**Agreed:**                   **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Sharvin, seconded by Councillor McAteer to note the Action Sheet of the Active and Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on Monday 19 December 2022.**

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

### AHC/004/2023: FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE CALL 2 APPROVALS

Read: Report dated 17 January 2023 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement regarding Financial Assistance. **(Copy circulated)**

Councillor Sharvin referred to letters received by Members in relation to the Arts and Culture theme as part of the grant call and concerns raised regarding funding not being confirmed and that the level of funding would be less than last year. He sought assurances that the Arts and Culture grant was going ahead and the level of funding would be the same as last year.

Mrs Hillen advised all themes referred to within the report and the previous report on financial call 1 operate at risk and have a caveat that it was subject to funding.

Mrs Hillen went on to advise she had not been made aware of any cuts to Arts and Culture funding or any difference in the threshold. She added it was the Enterprise Regeneration and Tourism (ERT) Directorate that set the budget for Arts and Culture and advised she would forward concerns raised to ERT so that Members could be updated.

Councillor Sharvin requested the ERT directorate bring a paper on to the Strategic Finance Working Group Meeting on Thursday 26 January 2022 if there were any concerns in relation to the level of funding for Culture and Arts.

Councillor McEvoy asked that given concerns raised in relation to Arts and Culture that consideration be given to shorter approval timeframes for events, similar to those proposed for the Kings Coronation. This would allow groups such as SOMA, Down Time and Eat and Beats to bring forward their applications to allow time to plan for these events.

Mrs Hillen confirmed she would advise ERT of the Committees' concerns raised as it was that department that had control of the budget and themes.

In response to a point raised by Councillor Lewis, Mrs Hillen confirmed that should any community groups have concerns in relation to financial assistance that they contact Council officers at any time.

**Agreed:** **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Sharvin, seconded by Councillor McEvoy to approve the following:**

- **Recommendations for Call 1 and letters to be issued in February 2023 with themes focusing on events/festivals in April 2023 being prioritised.**
- **Approval for Call 2 themes and time frame as above.**
- **Delegated authority for Director approval regarding the Kings Coronation and other Call 2 themes requiring approval through Purdah.**

**Mrs Hillen to advise ERT Directorate of concerns raised and that a paper be brought to the Strategic Finance Working Group Meeting on 26 January 2023 if cuts were proposed to this theme.**

**AHC/005/2023: DISTRICT ELECTORAL AREA (DEA) FORUMS UPDATE REPORT**

**Read:** Report dated 17 January 2023 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement regarding an update on District Electoral Area Forums. **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor O'Hare, seconded by Councillor Brennan, to note the report and approve the actions in the Action Sheets attached for the following:

- Downpatrick DEA Forum Private Meeting held on Tuesday 13 December 2022.
- Newry DEA Forum Private Meeting held on Thursday 15 December 2022 (amended).

**AHC/006/2023: COMMUNITY CO-ORDINATION HUB – UPDATE REPORT**

**Read:** Report dated 17 January 2023 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement regarding an update report for the Community Co-ordination Hub. **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Sharvin, seconded by Councillor McEvoy, to note the report and approve the actions in the Action Sheet attached for the Community Coordination Hub (CCH) Meeting held on Wednesday 14 December 2022.

**AHC/007/2023: COMMUNITY CONSULTATION FOR COMMUNITY FACILITIES STRATEGY**

**Read:** Report dated 17 January 2023 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement regarding community consultation for community facilities. **(Copy circulated)**

In response to Councillor Sharvin, Mrs Hillen advised approval was being sought prior to purdah to be able to progress the public consultation so that once elections were over it could proceed and provided assurance that the draft consultation would not be issued without Committee, CMT and SMT approval.

Councillor McAteer suggested that Members be provide with a list of those being consulted.

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor McAteer, seconded by Councillor O'Hare subject to approval of the draft strategy at CMT and SMT that a public consultation be progressed in due course.

## HEALTH AND WELLBEING

**AHC/008/2023: OFFICE OF PRODUCT SAFETY AND STANDARDS (OPSS)  
FUNDING FOR PRODUCT SAFETY WORK**

**Read:** Report dated 17 January 2023 from Mr E Devlin, Assistant Director, Health and Wellbeing regarding funding from the Office of Product Safety and Standards for product safety work. **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Sharvin, seconded by Councillor McAteer to accept the offer of funding and approve that the relevant Officer sign the required contract.**

**AHC/009/2023: CONSULTATION RESPONSE: PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE  
FOOD LAAW CODE OF PRACTICE (NORTHERN IRELAND) IN  
RELATION TO A NEW FOOD STANDARDS DELIVERY MODEL**

**Read:** Report dated 17 January 2023 from Mr E Devlin, Assistant Director, Health and Wellbeing regarding funding from the Office of Product Safety and Standards for product safety work. **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor McAteer, seconded by Councillor McEvoy to return the attached Consultation response and note the response had been submitted by the required date (9 January 2023) on the proviso that it was subject to Council approval.**

**ITEMS RESTRICTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH PART 1 OF SCHEDULE 6 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT (NI) 2014**

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor McAteer, seconded by Councillor McEvoy it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on items 12-16 which related to exempt information by virtue of para. 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local /Government (Northern Ireland) 2014 – Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Council holding that information) and the public may, by resolution, be excluded during this item of business.

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Lee-Surginor, seconded by Councillor O’Hare, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.

The Chairperson advised the following had been agreed whilst in closed session:

**AHC/010/2023      UPGRADE WORKS AT BARCROFT AND THREEWAYS COMMUNITY CENTRE**

**Read:** Report dated 17 January 2023 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Development regarding the appointment of the preferred bidder to undertake upgrade works at Barcroft and Three Ways Community Centres. **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Lewis, seconded by Councillor Sharvin to note the content of the report and approve the appointment of the preferred bidder to carryout upgrade works at Barcroft and Three Ways Community Centres subject to contract and completion of due diligence checks.

**AHC/011/2023      COMMUNITY TRAILS UPDATE**

**Read:** Report dated 17 January 2023 from Mr P Tamati, Assistant Director Leisure and Sport regarding an update in relation to Community Trails. **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Lee-Surginor, seconded by Councillor McAteer to approve the update on Community Trails as per appendix 1 of the officer’s report.

**END OF CLOSED SESSION**

**FOR NOTING**

**AHC/012/2023**

**SOCIAL INCLUSION UPDATE**

Read

Report dated 17 January 2023 from Mr J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement regarding an update on the social inclusion work. **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:**

**It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Sharvin, seconded by Councillor McEvoy to note the contents of the officer's report.**

There being no further business the meeting ended at 6.33pm.

For adoption at the Council Meeting to be held on Monday 6 February 2023.

Signed: Councillor H Gallagher  
Chairperson

Signed: Michael Lipsett  
Director Active and Healthy Communities