

NEWRY, MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Ref: AHC/2017

Minutes of Active and Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on Monday 15 May 2017 at 6.00pm in the Mourne Room, Downshire Civic Centre, Downpatrick

Chairperson: Councillor M Carr

In attendance: **(Councillors)**
Councillor Burns Councillor Byrne
Councillor Doran Councillor Harvey
Councillor Kimmins Councillor Loughran
Councillor Ó Muirí Councillor Taylor
Councillor Trainor Councillor Walker

Also in attendance: Councillor Enright

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

Also in attendance: Briege Jennings, County Down Rural Community Network (CDRCN)

AHC/68/2017: **APOLOGIES & CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS**

Apologies were received from Councillors Fitzpatrick, Harte and McMurray.

The Chairperson stated this was his last meeting as Chair of the Committee and he expressed his appreciation to Councillor Kimmins for her support as Vice-Chairperson. He also thanked Mr Lipsett, Mr Devlin, Mrs Hillen and Mr Moore for their support throughout the year and thanked Democratic Services for keeping him on the right track.

The Chairperson congratulated Laura Graham who was a lifeguard in Kilkeel Leisure Centre for becoming the first Northern Irish female winner in 18 years to win the Belfast Marathon. He stated Laura was a great ambassador for our District.

The Chairperson acknowledged and praised the leisure staff during the successful implementation of the Leisure Managements System (Phase I)

The Chairperson advised a letter had been received from a member of the public who had health problems. The letter praised the staff in Kilkeel Leisure Centre, in particular Caroline, Mark and Wayne who went above and beyond their duty.

The Chairperson advised a letter had been received from a ratepayer who had visited Cranfield over Easter and used the gym in Kilkeel Leisure Centre. She stated she was very impressed with the centre and had availed of the spin class, praising the instructor and stating she would use the facilities again when visiting Cranfield. The Chairperson asked that the staff in the leisure centre were made aware of these positive comments.

The Chairperson welcomed Briege Jennings from County Down Rural Community Network who was in attendance at the meeting for the item on community centre review.

AHC/69/2017: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Burns declared an interest in AHC/149/2016 – Extension of Facility Management Agreement with Castlewellan Community Partnership which appeared in the action sheet.

AHC/70/2017: ACTION SHEET OF THE ACTIVE AND HEALTHY COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 20 APRIL 2017

Read: Action Sheet of the Active & Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on Monday 20 April 2017. **(Copy circulated)**

AHC/151/2016 – Approval for Minor Improvements at Barcroft and Annalong Community Centres

Councillor Kimmins asked whether there was any update to the fencing issue at Barcroft Community Centre.

Mrs Hillen advised she would speak with the officers involved in the scheme and advise them to liaise directly with Councillor Kimmins.

Agreed: It was agreed to note the action sheet.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

AHC/71/2017 COMMUNITY CENTRE REVIEW

Read: Report from Mrs J McCann, Head of Community Services dated 15 May 2017 regarding Community Centre Review (copy circulated)

Councillor Byrne asked what criteria had been used with regard to funding community centres, was it just using footfall figures.

Mrs Hillen advised a number of operational models existed and due to the differences within these models, the review was undertaken.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Ó Muirí, seconded by Councillor Doran to approve the findings of Stage 2 of the Community Centre Review and proceed with implementation of Stage 3.

AHC/72/2017 COMMUNITY SUPPORT LOANS

Read: Report from Mrs J McCabe, Programmes Unit dated 15 May 2017 regarding Community Support Loans (copy circulated)

Mrs Hillen advised Members that officers had convened a number of meetings to investigate options open to Council in terms of community support loans following the notice of motion presented to Council in January 2017. She stated the report recommended that Officers complete the following:

- Continue to support community organisations undertaking capital projects;
- Continue to signpost to established charitable organisations who provide support loans (if required);
- Investigate the viability of introducing a Fund Management Loan Arrangement (if required and subject to budget within 18/19 financial year);
- Re-assess levels of match funding required by Council for community capital projects as part of the overall Financial Assistance Review in June 2017.

Councillor Burns proposed that the Committee accept the recommendations and asked whether a clause could be written in that community organisations who complete groundworks or other aspects of the build themselves could have their works offset against the match funding element of the grant.

Councillor Enright stated most community groups do not have money and the releasing of monies for festivals etc. could be done through the reserves.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Burns, seconded by Councillor Doran to accept the officer's recommendations and investigate whether community organisations could, as part of their match funding element of the grant, complete groundworks or other aspects of the build.

AHC/73/2017 DEA UPDATE

Read: Report from Mr D Brannigan, Head of Engagement and Ms S Rice, DEA Co-ordinator (Crotlieve), dated 15 May 2017, regarding DEA Fora Update (copy circulated).

AGREED: It was agreed to note the DEA update.

AHC/74/2017 FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Read: Report from Ms J McCabe, Programmes Unit, dated 15 May 2017, regarding Financial Assistance programme (copy circulated)

Mrs Hillen advised the Financial Assistance report would previously have been an item on the SPR agenda however it now falls under the remit of AHC. She stated there had been a year on year increase in the number of applicants passing stage 1 and stage 2 and as the amount of funding requested under some themes was much higher than the available budget accordingly, some groups had been awarded less funding than they had requested.

Councillor Byrne welcomed the stats breakdown however he would like to see each of the themes broken down across each of the DEA areas. Mrs Hillen agreed to provide this information.

Councillor Burns asked whether in-kind contributions could be investigated with regard to what community organisations can bring to Council.

AGREED: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Burns, seconded by Councillor Byrne to accept the officer's recommendation to approve to fund applications in call one for the 2017-2018 period and approve financial assistance call 2 (subject to the confirmation of budgets).

Mrs Hillen to provide a breakdown of the grants by themes and DEA.

AHC/75/2017 Mourne Mountain Adventure & Rescue 116

Read: Report from Ms S Fearon, PCSP Manager, dated 15 May 2017 regarding Mourne Mountain Adventure & Rescue 116 (copy circulated)

Mrs Hillen provided some background to the Mourne Mountain Adventure and its relationship with Rescue 116 and recommended that the registration fee from Mourne Mountain Adventure 2017 was donated to the Irish Coastguard in memory of Rescue 116.

AGREED: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Doran, seconded by Councillor Burns to accept the officer's recommendation to donate the registration fees from Mourne

Mountain Adventure 2017 to the Irish Coastguard in memory of Rescue 116.

LEISURE AND SPORTS

AHC/76/2017 INDOOR LEISURE STAFF TRAINING DAYS

Read: Report from Mr K Gordon, Head of Indoor Leisure, dated 15 May 2017 regarding Indoor Leisure Staff Training Days (copy circulated)

Mr Moore advised that in the legacy Down District Council, leisure centres closed up to an additional 4 days per year to facilitate core staff training, however there was no such arrangement in legacy Newry & Mourne District Council. He recommended that Officers be permitted to target known dates throughout the year where customer throughput was lower than average and allow up to 2 closure days per year per facility for staff training.

AGREED: **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Burns, seconded by Councillor Byrne to accept the officer's recommendation to target known dates throughout the year where customer throughput was lower than average and allow up to 2 closure days per year per facility for staff training.**

AHC/77/2017 PRESS ADVERTISEMENT FOR SANDSA – ONLINE FUNDING

Read: Report from Mr P Power, Sports Officer, dated 15 May 2017 regarding Press Advertisements for SANDSA – online funding (copy circulated)

Mr Moore advised the Council's Sports Officer had met with Northern Ireland Local Giving Coordinator regarding information and assistance for local charities and sports clubs with their online fundraising and the sports development section was proposing to host three information sessions for all sports clubs throughout the District. These were proposed as follows:

Thursday 8 June – Newry Arts Centre
Monday 12 June – Kilkeel Bowling Pavilion
Tuesday 13 June – Downpatrick Golf Club

Members welcomed the information sessions, however asked whether the Newry Arts Centre date could be amended due to the General Election being held that day.

AGREED: **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Byrne, seconded by Councillor Burns to approve the information sessions as follows:
Thursday 15 June – Newry Arts Centre (new date identified following meeting)
Monday 12 June – Kilkeel Bowling Pavilion
Tuesday 13 June – Downpatrick Golf Club**

HEALTH & WELLBEING

AHC/78/2017 SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT WITH DRINKING WATER INSPECTORATE

Read: Report from Mr E Devlin, Assistant Director, Health and Wellbeing, dated 15 May 2017 regarding Service Level Agreement with Drinking Water Inspectorate (copy circulated).

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Burns, seconded by Councillor Byrne to agree the signing of the Service Level Agreement with Drinking Water Inspectorate.

AHC/79/2017 FUNDING REQUEST FROM SUSTAINABLE NI

Read: Report from Ms S McEldowney, Senior Environmental Health Officer, dated 15 May 2017, regarding Funding Request from Sustainable NI (copy circulated).

Mr Devlin advised that Sustainable NI was a charity set up to advance the pursuit of sustainable development by local authorities and others and they were requesting a contribution of £5000 for membership of the Local Government Sustainable Development Forum which provided networking and advice to Council Officers engaged in the field of Sustainability.

Members queried what the reasons for not supporting this previously were and whether other Councils got value for money from membership.

Mr Devlin advised the matter slipped a bit through the legacy Councils and Council received a lot of goodwill support last year. He stated it would be useful through the new forum to make savings which would justify the cost of membership.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Byrne, seconded by Councillor Trainor to accept the officer's recommendation to provide funding to Sustainable NI and to sign the Service Level Agreement.

There being no further business the meeting ended at 6.42pm.

For consideration at Meeting of Newry, Mourne and Down District Council to be held on Monday 5 June 2017.

Signed: Councillor M Carr
Chairperson

Signed:

Mr M Lipsett
Director of Active and Healthy Communities