

NEWRY, MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Ref: AHC/2016

**Minutes of Active and Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on
Monday 17 October 2016 at 6.00pm in the Mourne Room,
Downshire Civic Centre, Downpatrick**

Chairperson: Councillor M Carr

In attendance: **(Councillors)**
Councillor P Brown Councillor S Burns
Councillor P Byrne Councillor V Harte
Councillor H Harvey Councillor L Kimmins
Councillor K Loughran Councillor B Ó'Muiri
Councillor D Taylor Councillor J Trainor
Councillor W Walker

Non-Committee Members: Councillor T Andrews Councillor R Burgess

Officials in attendance: Mr L Hannaway, Chief Executive
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)
Ms J Hillen, Assistant Director of Community Engagement
Mr D Brannigan, Head of Service for Community Engagement
Ms J McCann, Head of Service for Community Services
Ms S Burns, Programmes Manager
Mrs M Rodgers, p/t PA to Director
Mrs C Toman, p/t PA to Director
Miss S Taggart, Democratic Services Officer

Also in attendance: Mr N McCrickard, County Down Rural Community Network
Ms B Jennings, County Down Rural Community Network
Ms C Shiels, County Down Rural Community Network

AHC/128/2016: APOLOGIES AND CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

Councillor Harvey was in attendance at the beginning of the meeting, however had to leave due to another engagement.

- The Chairperson congratulated Mr Damien Brannigan on his appointment as Head of Service for Community Engagement and Ms Julie McCann on her appointment as Head of Service for Community Services.
- The Chairperson advised a letter had been received from Newry City AFC inviting Council to sit on the Project Steering Group for the development of their showgrounds.

Mr Lipsett advised that the Council were still finalising the Sports Facilities Strategy and should not be seen to favour certain clubs over others. He stated officers could meet with the Football Club to discuss their needs and bring a report back to the Committee in due course.

AHC/129/2016: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

AHC/130/2016: ACTION SHEET OF THE ACTIVE AND HEALTHY COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 19 SEPTEMBER 2016

Read: Action Sheet of the Active & Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on Monday 19 September 2016. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: **It was agreed to note Action Sheet arising from the Active & Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on Monday 19 September 2016.**

AHC/131/2016 PRESENTATION – COUNTY DOWN RURAL COMMUNITY NETWORK – COMMUNITY CENTRE EFFECTIVENESS REVIEW

The Chairperson welcomed Mr Nicholas McCrickard from County Down Rural Community Network (CDRCN) and invited him to make his presentation to the Committee.

Mr McCrickard thanked the Chairperson and stated that CDRCN working across the Council area and had been tasked with undertaking a review of community centres across the whole District. He advised there were 16 community centres all within the

Newry and Mourne legacy Council area that are Council owned and supported by community volunteers.

Mr McCrickard reported the findings of the review undertaken and a copy of these are appended to these minutes. (copy enclosed)

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

Members asked the following questions:

- Where there any discussions with community groups about taking on energy schemes?
- Solar panels were delivered to a community centre; however, there was uncertainty around where they had come from.

Mr McCrickard responded to the queries as follows:

- Some groups had panels delivered and installed however they were unsure whether it would be of any benefit to the group. Other groups stated they would welcome energy saving schemes to be installed.
- One centre had solar panels delivered however the community group had concerns whether it would benefit the group or the Council.

Mr Lipsett advised that the plan would be to make the buildings as sustainable as possible and, at present, it was not the Council's intention to continue to fund groups in energy savings schemes, but this would be further considered following the completion of the full review.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

AHC/132/2016 COMMUNITY CENTRE EFFECTIVENESS REVIEW – STAGE 1 UPDATE

Read: Report from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director of Active and Healthy Communities, Community Engagement, dated 17 October 2016 regarding Community Centre Review (Copy circulated).

Agreed: **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Ó'Muiri, seconded by Councillor Burns, to approve the officer's recommendation to accept the findings of Stage 1 of the Community Centre Review and proceed with implementation of Stage 2 by CDRCN.**

AHC/133/2016 DEA UPDATE

Read: Report from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director of Active and Healthy Communities, Community Engagement, dated 17 October 2016 regarding Dea Update (Copy circulated).

Agreed: The report regarding the DEA Update was noted and it was agreed that the actions outlined in the action sheets from Slieve Gullion, Rowallane and Crotlieve DEA Forum Meetings in August and September 2016 be approved.

AHC/134/2016 REPORT ON ADDITIONAL FUNDING FROM DEPARTMENT FOR COMMUNITIES (DfC) FOR WELFARE REFORM READINESS PROGRAMME AND WELFARE REFORM TRAINING PROGRAMME

Read: Report from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement, dated 17 October 2016 regarding Additional Funding from Department for Communities (DfC) for Welfare Reform Readiness Programme and Welfare Reform Training Programme (Copy circulated).

Mrs Hillen advised Council had received a Letter of Variance to its original Letter of Offer of funding for the Council's Community Support Programme for 1 April 2016-31 March 2017. She stated the funding had been ring-fenced for the delivery of the specific objectives outlined and should be issued to advice organisations currently funded in each Council area to provide advice services to the public.

Mrs Hillen stated that as the Council is the primary funder of Citizens Advice Newry, Mourne and Down, this funding should be awarded to that organisation.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Ó'Muiri, seconded by Councillor Burns, that the officer's recommendation to approve the awarding of the additional DfC funding to Citizens Advice Newry, Mourne and Down be accepted.

AHC/135/2016 CONSULTATION LAUNCHED ON STRATEGIC SUPPORT TO THE VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR

Read: Report from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement, dated 17 October 2016 regarding consultation launched on strategic support to the Voluntary and Community Sector (Copy circulated).

Agreed: It was agreed that approval on the proposal of Councillor Ó'Muiri, seconded by Councillor Trainor to approve the draft response to the consultation on strategic support to the Voluntary and Community Sector.

AHC/136/2016 NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL REVENUE PROGRAMME

Read: Report from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement dated 17 October 2016 regarding Neighbourhood Renewal Revenue Programme (Newry) (Copy circulated).

Agreed: **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Harte, seconded by Councillor Kimmins**

AHC/137/2016 PCSP UPDATE

Read: Report from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement, dated 17 October 2016 regarding Policing and Community Safety Partnership (Copy circulated).

Agreed: **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Taylor, seconded by Councillor Burns to note the update on the ongoing work of PCSP.**

LEISURE AND SPORTS

AHC/138/2016 PLAY STRATEGY UPDATE

Read: Report from Mr R Moore, Assistant Director, Leisure & Sport, dated 17 October 2016 regarding the Play Strategy Update (Copy circulated).

Mr R Moore advised Members that the Consultation Plan for the Play Strategy had been developed and detailed the conduits and events that would be used to ensure the Public's views are heard on the Strategy.

Agreed: **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Kimmins, seconded by Councillor Brown to note the update on the Play Strategy.**

AHC/139/2016 SPORTS FACILITY STRATEGY UPDATE

Read: Report from Mr R Moore, Assistant Director, Leisure & Sport, dated 17 October 2016 regarding the Sports Facility Strategy Update (Copy circulated).

Mr R Moore advised Members that the Sports Facility Strategy Consultation Plan had been developed and detailed the conduits and events that would be used to ensure the Public's views are heard in the final round of consultation. He stated the

final consultation would be undertaken using 3 workshops covering the 7 DEAs across the District.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Taylor, seconded by Councillor Trainor to note the update on the Sports Facility Strategy.

AHC/140/2016 IFA BID FOR UEFA YOUTH TOURNAMENT

Read: Report from Mr R Moore, Assistant Director, Leisure & Sport, dated 17 October 2016 regarding the Irish Football Association's bid for UEFA Youth Tournament (Copy circulated).

Mr R Moore advised Members the Irish Football Association are bidding to host either a boys Under 17 with 16 teams, or a boys Under 19 with 8 teams UEFA Youth Finals in May 2019 or May 2020.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Taylor, seconded by Councillor Trainor to offer a letter of support to the Irish Football Association's bid for UEFA Youth Tournament, but also highlight the benefits that our Council area can offer to their bid.

AHC/141/2016 MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT PROJECT

Read: Report from Mr R Moore, Assistant Director, Leisure & Sport, dated 17 October 2016 regarding the Macmillan Cancer Support Project (Copy circulated).

Mr R Moore advised that Macmillan Cancer Support have developed 'Move More Northern Ireland', a physical activity service designed to provide people affected by cancer with the opportunities, support and motivation they may require to initiate and sustain an active lifestyle.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Ó'Muiri, seconded by Councillor Kimmins to agree, in principle, to a partnership programme with Macmillan Cancer Support for Newry, Mourne and Down and officers should develop this further reporting back to Committee once the details of the project are known.

HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

AHC/142/2016 CARAVAN SITE, FORKHILL ROAD, NEWRY

Read: Report from Mr E Devlin, Assistant Director, Health & Well-being, dated 17 October 2016 regarding Caravan site at Forkhill Road, Newry (Copy circulated).

Mr Devlin advised Members that there had been a number of complaints received alleging that the residents of the above mentioned caravan site were using the toilet facilities at a nearby sporting facility and subsequent concerns that there were not adequate waste disposal facilities at the caravan site.

Mr Devlin outlined the next steps in this process namely:

- AHC Department would write to the owner advising him that he is required to have a caravan site license for the above mentioned lands.
- AHC Department continue to liaise with the NIHE on approaching the land owner to sell the land and examine the feasibility of providing temporary accommodation at that location.
- AHC Department continue to monitor the site in relation to fire safety and public health.

Noted: It was agreed to note the update on the ongoing position at the caravan site on the Forkhill Road in Newry.

AHC/143/2016 CONSULTATION ON PROTECT LIFE 2 STRATEGY

Read: Report from Mr E Devlin, Assistant Director, Health & Well-being, dated 17 October 2016 regarding Consultation on Protect Life 2 Strategy (Copy circulated).

Mr Devlin advised that Council had been involved in an ongoing basis in the support of the Protect Life Strategy which was strongly focused on a collaborative approach across the sectors. He stated a response to the consultation document had been circulated with the papers and recommended that Council respond as per response questionnaire.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Ó'Muiri, seconded by Councillor Burns that Council respond to the consultation on Protect Life 2 Strategy as per response questionnaire.

AHC/144/2016 FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE UPDATE

Read: Report from Mr S Burns, Programmes Manager dated 17 October 2016 regarding Financial Assistance Update (Copy circulated).

Ms Burns advised the third call for Financial Assistance for Down Youth Street/Live Here, Love Here and Christmas Illuminations opened on 12 September and closed on 30 September with a total of 61 applications being received.

The report recommended approval be granted to fund applications in call three for Christmas Illuminations & Events and Down Your Street/Live Here, Love Here and the provision of up to 50% advances on a needs led basis.

In response to a query from Councillor Ó'Muírí, Ms Burns advised the community associations would be made aware of their success or otherwise by letter being sent on Tuesday 8th November, following Council meeting and call-in period.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Ó'Muírí, seconded by Councillor Burns to approve to fund applications in call three for Christmas Illuminations & Events and Down Your Street/Live Here, Love Here and the provision of up to 50% advances on a needs led basis.

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 7 November 2016.

Signed: Councillor M Carr
Chairperson

Signed: Mr M Lipsett
Director of Active and Healthy Communities