



December 30th, 2020

Notice Of Meeting

You are requested to attend the Council meeting to be held on **Monday, 4th January 2021** at **6:00 pm** in **Microsoft Teams**.

Agenda

1.0 Apologies and Chairperson's Remarks

2.0 Declarations of Interest

3.0 Action Sheet arising from Council Meeting held on 7 December 2020. (Attached).

 *Action Sheet Council Meeting 07 12 2020.pdf*

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Council Minutes For Adoption and Signing

4.0 Minutes of Council Meeting held on 7 December 2020. (Attached).

 *Council Minutes 07.12 2020.pdf*

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5.0 Minutes of Special Council Meeting held on 30 November 2020 with DfI (Attached).

 *Minutes - Sp Council 301120..pdf*

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Committee Minutes for Consideration and Adoption

6.0 Minutes of Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism Committee Meeting held on 14 December 2020. (Attached).

 *ERT Minutes 14 Dec 2020.pdf*

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6.1 Newry BID Revote Strategy

 *Consultation Update 221220 Update.pdf*

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7.0 Minutes of Neighbourhood Services Committee Meeting held on 15 December 2020. (Attached)

 *Neighbourhood Services Committee Minutes - 15-12-2020.pdf*

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8.0 Minutes of Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee Meeting held on 17 December 2020. (Attached).

 *SPR Committee Minutes - 17th December 2020.pdf*

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9.0 Minutes of Active and Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on 21 December 2020. (Attached).

 *Minutes of Active and Healthy Communities Committee 21 Dec 2020.pdf*

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10.0 Minutes of Special Audit Committee Meeting held on 07 December 2020. (Attached).

 *Minutes Special Audit Committee 07 Dec 2020.pdf*

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11.0 Planning Section

There were no issues referred from the Planning Committee Meeting held on 16 December 2020

For Noting

12.0 Northern Ireland Housing Council Minutes, November 2020. (Attached).

 *Housing Council Minutes -November 2020.pdf*

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13.0 Northern Ireland Housing Council Bulletin December 2020. (Attached).

 *Members Bulletin - December 2020.pdf*

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Conferences/Events

14.0 Northern Ireland Planning Conference 2021. (Details attached)

Date: Thursday 11 February 2021

Venue: On line

Fee: £145 plus VAT

 *Northern Ireland Planning Conference 2021.pdf*

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Notices of Motion

15.0 Notice of Motion - Northern Mutual Bank

Notice of motion received from Councillor Brown

‘That this Council recognises the need for greater resilience and community wealth

building in the council region in light of the coronavirus pandemic and future crises that will inevitably arise due to global warming; and looks to solutions beyond business-as-usual which can help build this necessary resilience and community wealth. In seeking such solutions, this council agrees to assess the financial and practical viability of the Northern Mutual bank—a bank that will be regional, ethical, complementary to our Credit Unions, and not driven by profit but by the needs of the region. This should be done as part of a wider commitment to developing a District-wide Community Wealth Building strategy.

A business case will be provided to council to help carry out this assessment and if it can be demonstrated that the Northern Mutual is indeed financially and practically viable, this council will commit to some or all of the following:

- To join the Advisory Group of the Northern Mutual.
- To publicly support the campaign for the Northern Mutual.
- To lobby government departments and anchor institutions as a way to garner further support for the campaign.
- To invest money to help raise the bank's £20m start-up capital on the understanding that council will receive a return on this investment; the business case will give an indication of the rate of return.'

16.0 Notice of Motion - Contribution to Health & Social Care and Care Home Workers

Notice of Motion received from Councillor Hanna, seconded by Councillor Walker

This Council recognises the importance of our National Health Service and the heroic contribution of our health and social care workers, and care home workers, throughout the pandemic, express our thanks for their commitment to the care for community and will write to the Health Minister Robin Swann MLA asking him to administer a thank you" payment of at least £500 as a practical demonstration of our gratitude.

ACTIONS OUTSTANDING FROM PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETINGS

| Minute Ref | Subject | Decision | Lead Officer | Actions taken/ Progress to date | Remove from Action Sheet Y/N |
|------------|---|--|------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| C/178/2019 | Notice of Motion – C/131/2019: Live Animals in Circuses | At the request of Councillor McAteer it was agreed the motion remain on the action sheet. | Democratic Services | | N |

ACTION SHEET – COUNCIL MEETING – MONDAY 7 DECEMBER 2020

| Minute Ref | Subject | Decision | Lead Officer | Actions taken/ Progress to date | Remove from Action Sheet Y/N |
|------------|--|---|------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| C/162/2020 | Action Sheet arising from Council Meeting held on 02.11.2020 | The action sheet was agreed | Democratic Services | Noted | |
| C/163/2020 | Minutes of Council Meeting held on 02.11.20 | The minutes were agreed as an accurate record and adopted. | Democratic Services | Noted | Y |
| C/164/2020 | Minutes of Special Council Meeting held on 26.10.20 | The minutes were agreed as an accurate record and adopted. | Democratic Services | Noted | Y |
| C/165/2020 | Minutes of ERT Committee Meeting held on 09.11.20 | The minutes were agreed as an accurate record and adopted. | Democratic Services | Noted | Y |

| Minute Ref | Subject | Decision | Lead Officer | Actions taken/ Progress to date | Remove from Action Sheet Y/N |
|------------|--|---|---------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| C/166/2020 | Minutes of SPR Committee Meeting held on 12.11.20 | The minutes were agreed as an accurate record and adopted. | Democratic Services | Noted | Y |
| C/167/2020 | Minutes of AHC Committee Meeting held on 16.11.20 | The minutes were agreed as an accurate record and adopted. | Democratic Services | Noted | Y |
| C/168/2020 | Minutes of NS Committee Meeting held on 17.11.20 | The minutes were agreed as an accurate record and adopted. | Democratic Services | Noted | Y |
| C/169/2020 | Minutes of Special Audit Committee Meeting held on 24.11.20 | The minutes were agreed as an accurate record and adopted. | Democratic Services | Noted | Y |
| C/170/2020 | Minutes of Special SPR Committee Meeting held on 01.12.20 | It was to defer the minutes of Special Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee Meeting held on 1 December 2020 to a Special Council Meeting, date to be confirmed. | Democratic Services | Noted | Y |
| C/171/2020 | Extract from draft Planning Committee Meeting held on 21.10.20 | The extract of Draft Planning Minutes of 18 November 2020 was approved. | Democratic Services | Noted | Y |
| C/172/2020 | Northern Ireland Housing Council | The bulletin was noted. | Democratic Services | Noted | Y |

| Minute Ref | Subject | Decision | Lead Officer | Actions taken/ Progress to date | Remove from Action Sheet Y/N |
|------------|--|-------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| | Bulletin dated October 2020 | | | | |
| C/173/2020 | Northern Ireland Housing Council Minutes – October 2020 | The Minutes were noted. | Democratic Services | Noted | Y |
| C/174/2020 | Correspondence from Dept of Communities re: Regeneration Bill | The correspondence was noted. | Democratic Services | Noted | Y |
| C/175/2020 | Correspondence from Minister for Education Minister re: children taking transfer tests in their own primary schools | The Correspondence was noted. | Democratic Services | Noted | Y |
| C/176/2020 | Correspondence from Financial Conduct Authority re: C/132/2020 Increases in Vehicle and House Insurance Costs | The Correspondence was noted. | Democratic Services | Noted | Y |
| C/177/2020 | Correspondence from Financial Conduct Authority re: C/132/2020 Increases in Vehicle and | The Correspondence was noted. | Democratic Services | Noted | Y |

| Minute Ref | Subject | Decision | Lead Officer | Actions taken/ Progress to date | Remove from Action Sheet Y/N |
|------------|--|---|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| | House Insurance Costs | | | | |
| C/178/2020 | Correspondence from the Minister for Education re: Planned disposal of Ardnabannon Outdoor Education Centre | The Correspondence was noted. | Democratic Services | Noted | Y |
| C/179/2020 | Correspondence from the Minister for Health re: Reopening of A&E at Daisy Hill and Downe Hospital | The correspondence was noted. | Democratic Services | Noted | Y |
| C/180/2020 | Correspondence from Fermanagh and Omagh District Council re: Coronavirus Pandemic on Further and Higher Education Students | It was agreed that Newry, Mourne and Down District Council write to Fermanagh and Omagh District to thank them for the correspondence and support the motion on Coronavirus Pandemic on Further and Higher Education as outlined in the letter. It was also agreed to forward a copy of the Council's support to the other 10 Councils. | Democratic Services | Actioned | Y |
| C/181/2020 | Notice of Motion – Sustainability | The Motion was referred to the AHC Committee in accordance with Standing Order 16.1.6 | Democratic Services M Lipsett | Actioned | |
| C/182/2020 | Notice of Motion – Dunleath Park, Downpatrick | The Motion was referred to the AHC Committee in accordance with Standing Order 16.1.6 | Democratic Services M Lipsett | Noted | |

| Minute Ref | Subject | Decision | Lead Officer | Actions taken/ Progress to date | Remove from Action Sheet Y/N |
|------------|--|--|--|--|------------------------------------|
| C/183/2020 | Notice of Motion – Free Parking for HSC Staff | The Motion was referred to the Health Committee in accordance with Standing Order 16.1.6 | Democratic Services | Actioned | |
| C/184/2020 | Notice of Motion – Best Wishes for President Elect | <p>The motion was declared carried and it was agreed that Council welcomes the victory of President Elect Joe Biden Vice President Elect Harris and extends our congratulations and best wishes for their term of office.</p> <p>Noting the ancestral links that President-Elect Biden has with Ireland, including the Cooley Peninsula and the Port of Newry, and the impact that he can have as an ally in any future discussions with the UK government on Post-Brexit trade, Council will write to the White House and the NI Consulate after his Inauguration inviting him to our district; to the city of Newry, to the resting place of St Patrick in Downpatrick and the wider district as part of any official visit he may plan to the Island during his term as President. It will also write to Louth County council inviting them to send a joint invite.</p> | Democratic Services | Actioned | Y |
| C/185/2020 | Notice of Motion – Communication between Trade Union Representatives and Council Political Parties | The Motion was referred to the SPR Committee in accordance with Standing Order 16.1.6 | Democratic Services D Carville | Noted On Agenda for SP&R on 14/1/2021 | |
| C/186/2020 | Notice of Motion – Annual Christmas Anti | The motion was declared carried and it was agreed Council supports the PSNI annual Christmas anti drink and drug driving campaign and recognises the seriousness of drink and drug driving and the impact | Democratic Services | Actioned | Y |

| Minute Ref | Subject | Decision | Lead Officer | Actions taken/ Progress to date | Remove from Action Sheet Y/N |
|------------|--|--|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| | Drink Drive Campaign | this can have and has had on many families across the District. Calls on the Minister for Justice and the Minister for Infrastructure to bring forward changes to the Drink Drug drive limit to come into line with Scotland and to review the penalties that are imposed. | | | |
| C/187/2020 | Notice of Motion – Impact of Misogyny and Transmisogyny | The Motion was referred to the Equality and Good Relations Forum in accordance with Standing Order 16.1.6 | Democratic Services | Noted | Y |
| C/188/2020 | Notice of Motion – Housing System | The Motion was referred to the ERT Committee in accordance with Standing Order 16.1.6 | Democratic Services C Mallon | Noted | Y |
| C/189/2020 | Notice of Motion – NZEB (Nearly Zero Energy Building) Code | The Motion was referred to the ERT Committee in accordance with Standing Order 16.1.6 | Democratic Services C Mallon | Noted | Y |
| C/190/2020 | Notice of Motion – Government of Ireland Act | The Motion was referred to the Equality and Good Relations Forum in accordance with Standing Order 16.1.6 | Democratic Services | Noted | Y |
| C/191/2020 | Notice of Motion – Albert Basin Park | The Chairperson ruled that under Standing Orders 16.1.2 that the motion would not be heard as a 15 Acre City Park at the Albert Basin was already the agreed position of Council and was progressing through the standard channels. | Democratic Services | Noted | Y |
| END | | | | | |

NEWRY, MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

NMD/C/

Minutes of Council Meeting held on Monday 07 December 2020 at 6.00pm via Hybrid in Downshire Chamber and Microsoft Teams

In the Chair: Councillor L Devlin

| | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| In attendance: | Councillor T Andrews | Councillor P Brown |
| | Councillor R Burgess | Councillor P Byrne |
| | Councillor C Casey | Councillor W Clarke |
| | Councillor D Curran | Councillor A Finnegan |
| | Councillor H Gallagher | Councillor M Gibbons |
| | Councillor O Hanlon | Councillor G Hanna |
| | Councillor V Harte | Councillor R Howell |
| | Councillor M Larkin | Councillor A Lewis |
| | Councillor O Magennis | Councillor G Malone |
| | Councillor C Mason | Councillor D McAteer |
| | Councillor L McEvoy | Councillor H McKee |
| | Councillor K McKeivitt | Councillor A McMurray |
| | Councillor R Mulgrew | Councillor D Murphy |
| | Councillor K Owen | Councillor G O'Hare |
| | Councillor B Ó Muirí | Councillor H Reilly |
| | Councillor M Ruane | Councillor M Savage |
| | Councillor G Sharvin | Councillor G Stokes |
| | Councillor D Taylor | Councillor J Tinnelly |
| | Councillor J Trainor | Councillor W Walker |

(Officials)

Mrs M Ward, Chief Executive
 Mrs D Carville, Director of Corporate Services
 Mr M Lipsett, Director of Active & Healthy Communities
 Mr C Mallon, Director of Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism
 Mr J McBride, Director of Neighbourhood Services (Acting)
 Mr F O'Connor, Head of Legal & Administration (Acting)
 Mrs C Miskelly, Assistant Director, Corporate Service, Human Resources & Safeguarding
 Miss S Taggart, Democratic Services Manager (Acting)
 Mrs D Starkey, Democratic Services Officer
 Mrs C McAteer, Democratic Services Officer

C/160/2020

APOLOGIES AND CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

Apologies were received from Councillors Doran and Enright.

C/161/2020

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

On behalf of Council the Chairperson sent best wishes to Councillor Seán Doran who had been unwell but was improving. Thoughts continue to be with Sean and his family.

The Chairperson congratulated the Down Camogie team on winning the All-Ireland Intermediate Championship and the Armagh Camogie team for winning the All Ireland Junior Championships at the weekend.

The Chairperson paid tribute to Rostrevor native Susanna Ni Dhubhai who was the Senior Composite Design Engineer for the BWT Racing Point Formula 1 Team which had a fantastic result in the Grand Prix at the weekend, with a first and a third place. Members were advised the team was to be renamed Aston Martin Formula 1 for the 2021 season and that Susanna would be the most prominent Irish person involved with Formula 1 at this time.

The Chairperson once again reminded everyone that Covid 19 remained among us and that restrictions were to ease on Friday and appealed to everyone to shop local, support local but ultimately to stay safe. With further relaxations around Christmas, the Chairperson appealed to people to ensure that what they were doing was done safely whilst adhering to the public health messaging.

The Chairperson commented that whilst there was very positive news of a vaccine, it would be some months before it became widespread so for the sake of another few months she appealed to everyone to exercise caution.

The Chairperson sought Members co-operation in terms of contributions at Council meetings relating to Committee Minutes advising that Committees were the location to raise issues.

C/162/2020

ACTION SHEET ARISING FROM COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 2 NOVEMBER 2020

Read: Action sheet arising from Council Meeting held on 02 November 2020 (copy circulated).

Councillor Andrews enquired if a response had been received from the Department of Health, Health and Social Care Trusts and relevant bodies regarding correspondence sent to them about addressing and implementing procedures to provide treatments to deal cancer and other health conditions that had been delayed due to the current pandemic.

Mrs Ward confirmed there was no response to date and any response received would be circulated to Members.

Agreed:

The Action Sheet from Council Meeting held on 2 November 2020 was agreed on the proposal of

Councillor Savage, seconded by Councillor Ó Muirí.

COUNCIL MINUTES FOR ADOPTION AND SIGNING

C/163/2020 MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 2 NOVEMBER 2020

Read: Minutes of Council Meeting held on 2 November 2020 (copy circulated).

Agreed: **The Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 2 November 2020 were agreed as an accurate record and adopted, on the proposal of Councillor Stokes, seconded by Councillor Burgess.**

C/164/2020 MINUTES OF SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 26 OCTOBER 2020 RE: GRUGANDOO WIND FARM PLANNING APPLICATION

Read: Minutes of Special Council Meeting held on 26 October 2020 re: Grugandoo Wind Farm Planning Application. (copy circulated).

Agreed: **The Minutes of the Special Council Meeting held on 26 October 2020 were agreed as an accurate record and adopted, on the proposal of Councillor Casey, seconded by Councillor Sharvin.**

COMMITTEE MINUTES FOR CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION

C/165/2020 MINUTES OF ENTERPRISE, REGENERATION AND TOURISM COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 09 NOVEMBER 2020

Read: Minutes of Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism Committee Meeting held on 09 November 2020 (copy circulated).

Agreed: **The Minutes of the Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism Committee Meeting held on 09 November 2020 were agreed as an accurate record and adopted, on the proposal of Councillor Burgess, seconded by Councillor Stokes.**

C/166/2020 MINUTES OF STRATEGY, POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 12 NOVEMBER 2020

Read: Minutes of Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee Meeting held on 12 November 2020 (copy circulated).

In proposing the approval of the minutes Councillor Savage reiterated that the Albert Basin Project Board would be set up and meet in January 2021 and a budget would be included within the 2020/21 rates process to ensure the delivery of phase one within this Council term.

Agreed: **The Minutes of the Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee Meeting held on 12 November 2020 were agreed as an accurate record and adopted, on the**

proposal of Councillor Savage, seconded by Councillor Ó Muirí.

C/167/2020

MINUTES OF ACTIVE AND HEALTHY COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 16 NOVEMBER 2020

Read: Minutes of the Active and Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on 16 November 2020 (copy circulated).

Agreed: **The Minutes of the Active and Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on 16 November 2020 were agreed as an accurate record and adopted, on the proposal of Councillor Ó Muirí, seconded by Councillor Trainor.**

C/168/2020

MINUTES OF NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 17 NOVEMBER 2020

Read: Minutes of Neighbourhood Services Committee Meeting held on 17 November 2020 (copy circulated).

Agreed: **The Minutes of the Neighbourhood Services Committee Meeting held on 17 November 2020 were agreed as an accurate record and adopted, on the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor Owen.**

C/169/2020

MINUTES OF SPECIAL AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 24 NOVEMBER 2020

Read: Minutes of Special Audit Committee Meeting held on 24 November 2020. (copy circulated).

Agreed: **The Minutes of the Special Audit Committee Meeting held on 24 November 2020 were agreed as an accurate record and adopted, on the proposal of Councillor Hanlon, seconded by Councillor Sharvin.**

C/170/2020

MINUTES OF SPECIAL STRATEGY, POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 1 DECEMBER 2020

Read: Minutes of Special Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee Meeting held on 1 December 2020 re: outcomes of a conciliated process with the Labour Relations Agency. (copy circulated).

Agreed: **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Ó Muirí, seconded by Councillor Byrne to defer the minutes of Special Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee Meeting held on 1 December 2020 to a Special Council Meeting, date to be confirmed.**

PLANNING

C/171/2020

EXTRACT OF DRAFT PLANNING MINUTES 18 NOVEMBER 2020 UPDATE ON LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Read: Extract of Draft Planning Minutes of 18 November 2020 re: Local Development Plan (LDP) Progress, update and revised timetable. (copy circulated).

Councillor McAteer wished for it to be put on record that the revised timetable and new proposed date for the publication of the Local Development Plan was the second quarter of 2026/27 and that it was hoped it would be delivered ahead of this date.

Agreed: The extract of Draft Planning Minutes of 18 November 2020 was approved on the proposal of Councillor O'Hare, seconded by Councillor McAteer.

FOR NOTING

C/172/2020

NORTHERN IRELAND HOUSING COUNCIL BULLETIN – NOVEMBER 2020

Read: Bulletin dated November 2020 from Northern Ireland Housing Council. (Copy circulated)

Agreed: The Northern Ireland Housing Council Bulletin was noted.

C/173/2020

NORTHERN IRELAND HOUSING COUNCIL MINUTES OCTOBER 2020

Read: Northern Ireland Housing Council Minutes dated 8 October 2020. (Copy circulated)

Agreed: The Northern Ireland Housing Council Minutes dated 8 October 2020 were noted.

CORRESPONDENCE

C/174/2020

CORRESPONDENCE FROM DEPARTMENT FOR COMMUNITIES – REGENERATION BILL

Read: Correspondence dated 9 November 2020 from Department for Communities regarding Regeneration Bill. (Copy circulated)

Agreed: The correspondence was noted.

C/175/2020

CORRESPONDENCE FROM MINISTER FOR EDUCATION RE: CHILDREN TAKING TRANSFER TESTS IN THEIR OWN PRIMARY SCHOOLS

Read: Correspondence dated 16 November 2020 from Peter Weir, Minister for Education re: children taking transfer tests in their own primary schools. (Copy circulated)

Councillor Ó Muirí pointed out that the Northern Ireland Mental Health Champion Professor Siobhan O'Neill was appalled that transfer tests were proceeding and welcomed the correspondence from Minister Peter Weir which put the onus back on the Board of Governors.

Agreed: The correspondence was noted.

C/176/2020

CORRESPONDENCE FROM FINANCIAL CONDUCT AUTHORITY RE: C/132/2020 INCREASES IN VEHICLE AND HOUSE INSURANCE COSTS

Read: Correspondence dated 9 November 2020 from the Financial Conduct Authority re: C/132/2020 Increases in Vehicle and House Insurance Costs. (Copy circulated)

Councillor Magennis advised she was not happy with the response received from the Financial Conduct Authority in which they justify increasing the insurance premiums in the postcode areas of BT34 and BT35 without concrete evidence of the risk involved. She commented that it may be the case that legal advice would be sought.

Agreed: The correspondence was noted.

C/177/2020

CORRESPONDENCE FROM DERRY CITY AND STRABANE COUNCIL RE: MOTIONS PASSED REGARDING AIR QUALITY ISSUE

Read: Correspondence dated 13 November 2020 from Derry City and Strabane Council re: Motions passed regarding air quality. (Copy circulated)

Agreed: The correspondence was noted.

C/178/2020

CORRESPONDENCE FROM MINISTER FOR EDUCATION RE: PLANNED DISPOSAL OF ARDNABANNON OUTDOOR EDUCATION CENTRE

Read: Correspondence dated 6 and 17 November 2020 from the Minister for Education re: Planned disposal of Ardnabannon Outdoor Education Centre. (Copy circulated)

Councillor McMurray pointed that whilst the response from the Minister was addressed to him he paid credit to all DEA Councillors for signing the joint letter regarding the planned disposal of Ardnabannon Outdoor Education Centre.

Councillors McMurray, Howell and Gallagher voiced their disappointment at the decision of The Minister of Education regarding the planned disposal of Ardnabannon Outdoor Education Centre.

Agreed: **The correspondence was noted.**

C/179/2020 **CORRESPONDENCE FROM MINISTER FOR HEALTH RE: REOPENING OF A&E AT DAISY HILL AND DOWNE HOSPITAL**

Read: Correspondence dated 23 November 2020 from the Minister for Health re: Reopening of A&E at Daisy Hill and Downe Hospital. (Copy circulated)

Councillor Trainor commented that Covid-19 was not the primary issue as to the current state of emergency services and that it was an historic lack of resources and funding to ensure appropriately trained staff.

Agreed: **The correspondence was noted.**

C/180/2020 **CORRESPONDENCE FROM FERMANAGH AND OMAGH DISTRICT COUNCIL RE: CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC ON FURTHER AND HIGHER EDUCATION STUDENTS**

Read: Correspondence dated 13 November 2020 from Fermanagh and Omagh District Council re: Coronavirus Pandemic on Further and Higher Education Students. (Copy circulated)

Agreed: **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Byrne, seconded by Councillor Andrews that Newry, Mourne and Down District Council write to Fermanagh and Omagh District to thank them for the correspondence and support the motion on Coronavirus Pandemic on Further and Higher Education as outlined in the letter. It was also agreed to forward a copy of the Council's support to the other 10 Councils.**

C/181/2020 **NOTICE OF MOTION – SUSTAINABILITY**

The following Notice of Motion came forward for consideration in the name of Councillor Lewis:

"We note that Newry, Mourne and Down District Council aims to embed the ethos of sustainability throughout its operations. Sustainable development is about meeting the needs of people today and providing them with a good quality of life without compromising the quality of life of future generations. With that in mind this Council commits to producing a report on how we could be making funding

Agreed: The Motion was referred to the Active and Healthy Communities Committee in accordance with Standing Order 16.1.6.

"This Council recognises the importance of Dunleath Park to Downpatrick and the District, through sports, recreation, tourism and regeneration. With this importance and opportunity to develop Dunleath, this council will establish a working group of Downpatrick DEA Cllrs and council officers to establish a development plan for Dunleath that will include walking and cycling lanes, improvement to the MUGA and sports pitches, and gardens including sensory gardens".

Agreed: The Motion was referred to the Active and Healthy Communities Committee in accordance with Standing Order 16.1.6.

"This Council notes and welcomes the decision by the Minister for Health to instruct the Health and Social Care Trusts to provide free parking to HSC staff until March 31st. Council further calls on the Minister to ensure that such provision of free parking is made available to HSC staff on a permanent basis with no specific time restrictions placed by any Trust."

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C/184/2020**NOTICE OF MOTION – BEST WISHES TO PRESIDENT ELECT****15**

The following Notice of Motion came forward for consideration in the name of Councillor Brown:

"This Council welcomes the victory of President Elect Joe Biden Vice President Elect Harris and extends our congratulations and best wishes for their term of office.

Noting the ancestral links that President-Elect Biden has with Ireland, including the Cooley Peninsula and the Port of Newry, and the impact that he can have as an ally in any future discussions with the UK government on Post-Brexit trade, Council will write to the White House and the NI Consulate after his Inauguration inviting him to our district; to the city of Newry, to the resting place of St Patrick in Downpatrick and the wider district as part of any official visit he may plan to the Island during his term as President. It will also write to Louth County council inviting them to send a joint invite".

In proposing the motion, Councillor Brown provided an overview of facts and figures in relation to President Elect Joe Biden's election victory and his links to this area. He pointed out it had been an historic election that had taken place during the unprecedented context of a global health crisis and that the President would have a busy start to his term dealing with the Covid pandemic and subsequent economic impact.

Councillor Brown pointed out Joe Biden had unwavering support for the peace process given the important role his party had played in bringing it together and that he has been vocal on his opposition to Brexit and the risks it poses for the Good Friday Agreement. He has a wealth of foreign knowledge and expertise.

In seconding the motion, Councillor Stokes referred to a speech Joe Biden had made in 2016 and that he was a man who valued his Irish heritage and ancestors. Councillor Stokes referred to the plans for the Albert Basin, formerly a site of Newry Port and how it would be fantastic if Newry, Mourne and Down Council had something to show on that site during a visit from the President.

Councillor Hanna spoke on behalf of the DUP and voiced disappointment at the motion and questioned why Council would welcome any political victor and that Council had not done so in the past. He expressed concern at divisive remarks made by President Elect Joe Biden and that his party would not be supporting the motion and called upon President Elect to apologise to the people of his tradition.

During discussion, Councillor Taylor acknowledged the ancestral links to the area however felt the motion was overtly political and for that reason he would not be supporting it.

Councillor Murphy spoke in support of the motion stating it was an opportunity to have access to the White House and provide leverage on matters such legacy issues.

Councillor Lewis advised his party would have supported the motion if it hadn't taken one broad side on taking a view on American politics.

In summing up Councillor Brown said he understood the unionist parties concerns however the motion was included within the wider political context and why President Biden might be visiting.

The Chairperson put Councillor Brown's motion to a vote and asked for a show of hands, the results of which were as follows:

For: 31
Abstentions: 6

The motion was carried.

Agreed: The motion was declared carried and it was agreed that Council welcomes the victory of President Elect Joe Biden Vice President Elect Harris and extends our congratulations and best wishes for their term of office.

Noting the ancestral links that President-Elect Biden has with Ireland, including the Cooley Peninsula and the Port of Newry, and the impact that he can have as an ally in any future discussions with the UK government on Post-Brexit trade, Council will write to the White House and the NI Consulate after his Inauguration inviting him to our district; to the city of Newry, to the resting place of St Patrick in Downpatrick and the wider district as part of any official visit he may plan to the Island during his term as President. It will also write to Louth County council inviting them to send a joint invite.

C/185/2020 **NOTICE OF MOTION – COMMUNICATION BETWEEN TRADE UNION REPRESENTATIVES AND COUNCIL POLITICAL PARTIES**

The following Notice of Motion came forward for consideration in the name of Councillor Clarke:

"This Council facilitates the formation of a forum to provide a regular means of communication between Trade Union representatives, and council political parties, Council officers will produce an option paper to be considered by councillors".

The motion was seconded by Councillor Hanlon.

Agreed: The Motion was referred to the Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee in accordance with Standing Order 16.1.6.

C/186/2020

NOTICE OF MOTION – ANNUAL CHRISTMAS ANTI DRINK DRIVING CAMPAIGN

17

The following Notice of Motion came forward for consideration in the name of Councillor Gallagher:

“This Council supports the PSNI annual Christmas anti drink driving campaign and recognises the seriousness of drink driving and the impact this can have and has had on many families across the District. Calls on the Minister for Justice to bring forward changes to the Drink drive limit to come into line with Scotland and to review the penalties that are imposed.”

The motion was seconded by Councillor Trainor.

In proposing the motion, Councillor Gallagher stated that whilst the motion referred to the annual Christmas anti drink driving campaign it was something that needed to be brought forward 365 days a year. Between 28 November 2019 and 1 January 2020 there had been 418 drink and drug drivers arrested. The impact on families and the whole community required a change to legislation.

Councillor Trainor stated as a Council and through the work of PCSP Members were continually reminded of the dangers of drink driving.

A discussion ensued during which the motion was supported by Members.

Councillor Hanlon proposed an amendment to the motion that it include illegal and prescription drugs. Councillor Gallagher accepted the amendment.

In speaking in support of the motion, Councillor McMurray provided an overview of statistics from PSNI which showed an increase in driving under the influence over the Christmas period in 2018/19 on the same period in 2017/18. He also referred to legislation relating to drink driving and proposed an additional amendment that the motion to call upon the Minister for Infrastructure to bring forward the changes required.

Councillor Gallagher accepted the amendment to the motion.

Councillor Savage supported the motion and highlighted that as a border community there was a need for greater cooperation with Garda Síochána and PSNI.

The motion, as amended, was unanimously agreed and declared carried.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Gallagher, seconded by Councillor Trainor that Council supports the PSNI annual Christmas anti drink and drug driving campaign and recognises the seriousness of drink and drug driving and the impact this can have and has had on many families across the District. Calls on the Minister for Justice and the Minister for Infrastructure to bring forward changes to the Drink Drug drive limit to come into line with Scotland and to review the penalties that are imposed.”

The following Notice of Motion came forward for consideration in the name of Councillor McKeivitt:

"This Council recognises the impact of misogyny and transmisogyny on those affected by it, as well as the role these attitudes play in a variety of crimes, including harassment, assault, sexual assault and hate crimes, and on the career choices and personal lives of women, girls and non-binary people. The Council supports the inclusion of misogyny as a standalone offence and as a category of hate crime, recognising crimes targeted at women including trans women as hate crimes based on misogyny, and will write a letter to that effect to Judge Desmond Marrinan, as part of his ongoing review of hate crime legislation in Northern Ireland. The Council supports also the Raise Your Voice Project, which tackles sexual harassment and sexual violence across Northern Ireland, by placing posters in all Council properties to raise awareness of the project."

The motion was seconded by Councillor Devlin.

Agreed: The Motion was referred to the Equality and Good Relations Forum in accordance with Standing Order 16.1.6.

C/188/2020

NOTICE OF MOTION – HOUSING SYSTEM

The following Notice of Motion came forward for consideration in the name of Councillor Murphy:

"This Council welcomes the recent announcement by Communities Minister, Carál Ní Chuilín regarding her plans to fundamentally address the significant challenges facing our housing system. We call on the Planning Service to urgently place more emphasis on planning as an activity that is both integrated with other local government agencies and is focused on delivery".

The motion was seconded by Councillor Harte.

Agreed: The Motion was referred to the Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism Committee in accordance with Standing Order 16.1.6.

C/189/2020

NOTICE OF MOTION – NZEB (NEARLY ZERO ENERGY BUILDING) CODE

The following Notice of Motion came forward for consideration in the name of Councillor Enright and Councillor Brown proposed the motion in his absence:

"This Council calls upon Finance Minister Conor Murphy to immediately implement the NZEB Code (Nearly Zero Energy Building Code) that the EU Directive requires the NI Department of Finance to implement by the end of this year. This Directive has is adopted into UK law

- The motion was seconded by Councillor McAteer.

Agreed: The Motion was referred to the Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism Committee in accordance with Standing Order 16.1.6.

The following Notice of Motion came forward for consideration in the name of Councillor Councillor O'Muir:

"This Council notes the centenary anniversary of the Westminster parliament's Government of Ireland Act.

We note that the Good Friday Agreement caused this act to be revoked. [we welcome this]

We note the deep and wide divisions this has sustained and entrenched both within Irish society and in the relationships between the islands of Ireland and Britain, not least of those consequences has been the multi-layered generational conflict our society has endured.

We welcome and support the agreed framework provided by the peace process to address and deal with all of this by peaceful and democratic methods. We recognise that the outworking of this – the full implementation of the Good Friday Agreement in all its aspects – remains a work in progress.

This includes – its core requirements for equality of treatment, parity of esteem and mutual respect and the provision for a referendum to give full effect to the exercise by the people of Ireland to the right to self determine our future destiny and the centrality to this of both the British and Irish governments.

**In the first instance in respect of rights throughout the island.
and in the second the particular responsibility on the British government to set a
date for the referendum.**

This council further recognises that a stark choice is opening up between the narrow, inward-looking vision of Brexit Britain and the open inclusive vision of a new Ireland.

Therefore we call upon this council to encourage space for debate to present experiences and perspectives, big ideas and a public discourse on our

Agreed: The Motion was referred to the Equality and Good Relations Forum in accordance with Standing Order 16.1.6.

NOTICE OF MOTION – ALBERT BASIN PARK

"On the third anniversary of its commitment to deliver a 15 acre park on the Albert BASIN this Council recognises that a city park is the number 1 regeneration priority for Newry and will allocate sufficient capital funding in this years rates process to enable the project to be delivered within this Council term".

For confirmation at the Council Meeting to be held on Monday 4 January 2021.

Chief Executive

NEWRY, MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

NMC/SC

Minutes of Special Council Meeting held on 30 November 2020 at 6.00pm via Microsoft Teams

In the Chair: Councillor L Devlin

In attendance:

(Councillors)

| | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Councillor T Andrews | Councillor P Brown |
| Councillor R Burgess | Councillor P Byrne |
| Councillor W Clarke | Councillor D Curran |
| Councillor C Enright | Councillor A Finnegan |
| Councillor H Gallagher | Councillor O Hanlon |
| Councillor G Hanna | Councillor R Howell |
| Councillor M Larkin | Councillor A Lewis |
| Councillor O Magennis | Councillor C Mason |
| Councillor D McAteer | Councillor L McEvoy |
| Councillor H McKee | Councillor K McKevitt |
| Councillor A McMurray | Councillor D Murphy |
| Councillor G O'Hare | Councillor Ó Muirí |
| Councillor H Reilly | Councillor M Savage |
| Councillor G Sharvin | Councillor G Stokes |
| Councillor D Taylor | Councillor J Tinnelly |
| Councillor W Walker | |

(Officials)

Mrs M Ward, Chief Executive
 Mr M Lipsett, Director of Active and Healthy Communities
 Mr C Mallon, Director of Enterprise Regeneration and Tourism
 Miss S Taggart, Democratic Services Manager
 Ms L O'Hare, Democratic Services Officer

Also in attendance:

DFI Roads

Mr James Kelly, Network Development Manager
 Mr Ian Campbell, Newry Section Engineer
 Mr Hugh Morgan, Down Section Engineer

SC/20/2020

APOLOGIES AND CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

An apology was received from Councillor Doran. Mr M Lipsett, Director of Active and Healthy Communities advised the Chief Executive had been held up at another meeting and would join the meeting late.

The Chairperson advised members that Councillor Doran had taken unwell at the weekend and on behalf of Council sent thoughts and prayers to Councillor Doran and his family.

The Chairperson took the opportunity to congratulate Councillors Trainor, Lewis and Brown on their 'Movember Challenge' to date and reminded Members there was still time to donate, details of which could be found on the social media platforms.

The Chairperson welcomed Mr J Kelly, Mr H Morgan and Mr I Campbell from the DFI Roads to the meeting, outlining the procedure for the evening advising that once Mr Kelly had presented the report, there would be an opportunity for Members to ask any questions only related to the report. She asked that Members, when asking their questions, refer to the page number of the report. She stated if Members had any further queries not already addressed in the clinics, they should complete the proforma and send to Democratic Services who would forward to DFI Roads for a response.

The Chairperson passed Council's best wishes to Mr A Hamilton and his family who had recently retired from Dfi Roads and thanked him for all his hardwork and efforts over the years.

SC/21/2020

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There was none declared.

SC/22/2019

PRESENTATION FROM DFI ROADS

Mr J Kelly thanked Members for the opportunity to present the report and introduced his two colleagues, Mr I Campbell and Mr H Morgan, he then proceeded to make his presentation. (copy of annual report attached)

Following the presentation there was a question and answer session and the following points were raised:

- Ballynahinch Bypass –Members welcomed the news that the scheme was now progressing. Mr Kelly highlighted the Public Inquiry had been held in 2016 without further progress until now. He stated he Environmental Assessments were being refreshed to be presented to the Minister, who would make a further decision when and if the money would be made available to progress the project.
- Doran's Rock – A review of the Regional Strategic Network Transport Plan would be included in consideration with other schemes in the review, as to their merit in relation to each other. Inclusion of slow lane, passing bays and footpaths as in the report were assessed on requests received. Report was made up of projects that had progress through the process and have money allocated.
- Pedestrian Crossing Assessments were assessed based on the number of pedestrians, vehicles and numbers involved. There would be assessments carried out in the areas of the Dundrum Road and Castlewellan Road. Officials would revert to Members with an update once these have been completed.
- Public Realm Scheme Irish Street – there were some delays in completing the scheme due to concerns about the structural integrity of one of the buildings on the street. Council's Building Control were in ongoing talks with the property owner to try to rectify the situation. Councillor Curran agreed to speak to

Building Control to try and expedite the matter.

- 20mph School Schemes – the assessment process was carried out with the prioritisation of some schools, however there were plans to roll out a second tranche of the scheme at schools next year, depending upon finances.
- Strangford Ferry - An additional passenger-only service had been added to the timetable on weekdays in the morning and in the afternoon to facilitate schools.
- Annual budgets running year to year dictates the pace and content of what can be completed in the following and subsequent years in relation to cleaning of footpaths due to grass encroachment etc.
- DfI Roads to clarify the location mentioned in page 45 of the report with regards to Main Street Annalong.
- There was an intention to honour the timetabled red textured road banding projects detailed in the report, regardless of contract expiring. The procurement process for the next contract would already be progressing alongside the expiration of the other contract.
- Chapel View, Crossmaglen (P56 of the report) – It would be for the developer to follow the relevant process and present for adoption. There were steps that could be taken if this was not completed. DfI would investigate and revert to Councillor Finnegan.
- Newry Southern Relief Road – the current status was the design was currently being developed and officials were working on the environmental impact statement for the scheme and the draft orders. Current proposal was for a fixed bridge, however the Minister was keen to consider the views and concerns of local stakeholders to consider any further justifications liable with the installation of an opening bridge. Once this had been considered the next step would be to publish the orders and that would signal the beginning of the statutory consultation process. It would likely take some time before the full information would be received.

Councillor Clarke proposed that Council write to DfI Minister Mallon and Finance Minister Murphy to seek an increase in the overall budget for DfI Roads Service to allow for an increased spend with regards to pedestrian road safety measures. This was seconded by Councillor Byrne.

The Chairperson thanked Mr Kelly and the representatives from DfI for their very informed presentation and reminded Members any queries that were raised outside of the report could be sent to Democratic Services via the proforma and responded to accordingly by DfI Roads.

AGREED: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Clarke, seconded by Councillor Byrne, that Council write to DfI Minister Mallon and Finance Minister Murphy to seek an increase in the overall budget for DfI Road Service to allow for an increased spend with regards to pedestrian road safety measures.

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 19.02pm.

For adoption at Meeting of Newry, Mourne and Down District Council to be held on Monday 4th January 2021.

Signed:

Chairperson

Chief Executive

NEWRY MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism Committee Meeting
held on Monday 14 December 2020 at 6.00pm remotely via Microsoft Teams**

Chairperson: Councillor A McMurray

In attendance: **(Committee Members)**

Councillor R Burgess
Councillor D Curran
Councillor W Clarke
Councillor G Hanna
Councillor V Harte
Councillor R Howell
Councillor M Larkin
Councillor D McAteer
Councillor R Mulgrew
Councillor H Reilly
Councillor M Ruane
Councillor M Savage
Councillor G Stokes
Councillor J Tinnelly

Non Members: Councillor T Andrews
Councillor P Byrne

Officials in attendance: Mr C Mallon Director Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism
Mr A Patterson Assistant Director Tourism Culture & Events
Mr J McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise Employment & Regeneration
Mr A McKay Chief Planning Officer
Mr C Jackson Assistant Director of Building Control & Regulation
Ms L Dillon Democratic Services Officer
Ms L O Hare Democratic Services Officer

ERT/172/2020: APOLOGIES / CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

No apologies.

ERT/173/2020: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest.

ERT/174/2020: MESSAGE OF CONGRATULATIONS

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Tinnelly seconded by Councillor Stokes it was agreed to send a letter of congratulations from the Council to Dr Gerard O Hare on his appointment as Chair of Warrenpoint Harbour Authority.

**ERT/175/2020: ACTION SHEET
MINUTES OF ENTERPRISE, REGENERATION &
TOURISM COMMITTEE MEETING
- MONDAY 09 NOVEMBER 2020**

Read: Action Sheet arising out of the Minutes of the Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism Committee Meeting held on Monday 09 November 2020. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Tinnelly seconded by Councillor Savage it was agreed to note the Action Sheet arising from the Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Committee Meeting held on Monday 12 October 2020.

ENTERPRISE EMPLOYMENT & REGENERATION

ERT/176/2020: AONB: TERMS OF REFERENCE

Read: Report dated 14 December 2020 from Mr J McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise Employment & Regeneration regarding an update on the reviewed Terms of Reference for AONB Partnerships and the development of a potential project for a Shared History Fund. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor McAteer seconded by Councillor Clarke it was agreed as follows:

1. To approve the signing of the reviewed Terms of Reference for AONB Partnerships, subject to final signed off by legal officers and agreement with AONB Partners
2. To approve that officers liaise with partners on the development on a project that may be applicable to the Shared History Fund and submit an application if applicable.

ERT/177/2020: **COVID 19 REVITALISATION SCHEME**

Read: Report dated 14 December 2020 from Mr J McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise Employment & Regeneration regarding the Covid 19 Revitalisation Scheme. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Savage seconded by Councillor Clarke it was agreed as follows:

1. When received, Council to accept additional funding from DFC and DEARA totalling £147,000 for the Business Covid 19 Grants Scheme.
2. To note Council will continue to engage with lead Departments to deliver on an acceptable programme of activity that can be implemented within the appropriate timescales.
3. Council will open a new application for Business Grants offering eligible businesses a grant of up to £2,000 towards defined eligible items relating to Covid 19 compliance, with budget to be allocated on a first come first awarded basis up to the budget available (£1,033 M) across stage 1 and stage 2 grant application processes.
4. Officers to bring a report to the ERT Committee in January 2021 detailing a breakdown on the areas within the District where Covid 19 Revitalisation Scheme grants have been awarded.

Noted: As part of the Covid 19 Recovery Working Group, Council will engage with the Department to ascertain how to continue

providing assistance to businesses including support for retraining.

ERT/178/2020: DEVELOPMENT OF DUBLIN / BELFAST CORRIDOR

Read: Report dated 14 December 2020 from Mr C Mallon Director Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism regarding nominees to a Political Advisory Group regarding the development of the Dublin / Belfast Economic Corridor. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Burgess seconded by Councillor Stokes it was agreed nominations to the Dublin / Belfast Economic Corridor Political Advisory Group be deferred for consideration by the Party Leaders Group.

**ERT/179/2020: PUBLIC REALM SCHEME
LOWER HILL STREET NEWRY**

Read: Report dated 14 December 2020 from Mr J McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise Employment & Regeneration regarding the Lower Hill Street Newry Public Realm Scheme. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Stokes seconded by Councillor Savage it was agreed:

- (a) Utilising the existing Risk Allowances and Contingency figures from the previously agreed Economic Appraisal, Council approve a variation to the existing contracts and issue of a new Purchase Order if required to cover the consultant and contractor additional contractual costs as funded by Department for Communities under the Newry Lower Hill Street Public Realm Scheme.
- (b) To approve an updated Letter of Offer from the Department for Communities to provide the previously agreed Risk Allowance and Contingency Figures now required for the Newry Lower Hill Street Public Realm Scheme.

ERT/180/2020: NMDDC COVID 19 RECOVERY WORKING GROUP

Read: Report dated 14 December 2020 from Mr C Mallon Director Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism regarding the proposed establishment of a Covid 19 Recovery Working Group.
(Copy circulated)

Members raised the following points:

- The membership on the new Covid 19 Recovery Working Group should be done on the same basis as membership for the Party Group Leaders to ensure fair representation.
- In light of the fact Northern Ireland will be outside of the European Common Fishing Policy and the opportunities this will present to the fishing ports of Kilkeel and Ardglass, that Council consider meeting with the relevant fishing representative groups to discuss going forward from 1 January 2021.

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Stokes seconded by Councillor Harte it was agreed to approve the establishment of a NMDDC Covid 19 Recovery Working Group as per the Terms of Reference contained in Report dated 14 December 2020 from Mr C Mallon Director Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism.

Note: Terms of Reference would be amended to reflect the recommended membership of the Working Group.

ERT/181/2020: ALL IRELAND SMART CITIES FORUM

Read: Report dated 14 December 2020 from Mr J McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise Employment & Regeneration regarding renewal of Council membership on the All Ireland Smart Cities Forum (AISCF) **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Stokes seconded by Councillor McAteer it was agreed Newry Mourne & Down District Council continue to avail of the expertise from the All Ireland Smart Cities Forum, and that 1 No. Officer from the ERT Department and 1 No. representative from East Border Region attend the meetings and feed back into the relevant Departments.

ERT/182/2020: UNIVERSAL BASIC INCOME STEERING GROUP NI

Read: Report dated 14 December 2020 from Mr C Mallon regarding the appointment of members to sit on a Universal Basic Income Steering Group for Northern Ireland. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Mulgrew seconded by Councillor Burgess it was agreed that the nomination of Members to the Universal Basic Income Steering Group NI, be deferred for consideration by Party Leaders Group.

ERT/183/2020: WARRENPOINT MARINA PROJECT

Read: Report dated 09 November 2020 from Mr J McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise Employment Regeneration regarding the next steps for the Warrenpoint Marina Project. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor McAteer seconded by Councillor Ruane it was agreed the findings of the updated Business Case for the Warrenpoint Marina Project and next steps for the project, be presented to the Strategic Finance Working Group for consideration.

ERT/184/2020: WOMEN IN BUSINESS PROGRAMME: YES YOU CAN

Read: Report dated 14 December 2020 from Mr J McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise Employment Regeneration regarding the Yes You Can - Women in Business Programme. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Mulgrew seconded by Councillor Harte it was agreed Council approve the continued participation in 'The NI Woman in Enterprise Challenge' at a cost of £6,060 for the final Year/ Year 3.

TOURISM CULTURE & EVENTS

ERT/185/2020: SEA TOURS: NEWCASTLE HARBOUR

Read: Report dated 14 December 2020 from Mr A Patterson Assistant

Director Tourism Culture & Events regarding a Business Case for approval to tender for an operator to offer Sea / Charter Boat Tours from Newcastle Harbour. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Hanna seconded by Councillor Clarke it was agreed on completion of the procurement exercise, to award the contract to the most economically advantageous tender for an operator to offer Sea / Charter Boat Tours from Newcastle Harbour.

BUILDING CONTROL & REGULATIONS

ERT/1862020: **BUILDING CONTROL
CUSTOMER SATISFACTION SURVEY 2020**

Read: Report dated 14 December 2020 from Mr C Jackson Assistant Director Building Control regarding the Building Control Customer Satisfaction Survey 2020. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Mulgrew seconded by Councillor Stokes it was agreed to approve the Building Control Satisfaction Survey Report 2020.

(7.00pm – Cllr P Byrne left the meeting)

ERT/187/2020: **DANGEROUS STRUCTURE
WARRENPOINT**

Read: Report dated 14 December 2020 from Mr C Jackson Assistant Director Building Control regarding a dangerous wall located between Ashley Heights and Oak Grange Warrenpoint. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Ruane seconded by Councillor McAteer it was agreed the Council's Maintenance Department proceed to remove approximately 6m of a dangerous wall between Ashley Heights and Oak Grange Warrenpoint, and erect timber fencing.

EXEMPT INFORMATION

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Burgess seconded by Councillor Mulgrew it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on the following matter which related to exempt information by virtue of Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 – information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Council holding that information).

ERT/188/2020: TOURISM SIGNAGE PROGRAMME NMD WAYFINDING PROJECT 2020/21

Read: Report dated 14 December 2020 from Mr A Patterson Assistant Director Tourism Culture & Arts, regarding NMD Wayfinding Project 2020/21. **(Copy circulated)**

ERT/189/2020: EXTENSION OF LICENCE KILBRONEY PARK CAFÉ

Read: Report dated 14 December 2020 from Mr A Patterson Assistant Director Tourism Culture & Arts, regarding the Licence for the Kilbroney Park Café. **(Copy circulated)**

ERT/190/2020: SECURITY PROVISION KILBRONEY CARAVAN PARK

Read: Report dated 14 December 2020 from Mr A Patterson Assistant Director Tourism Culture & Arts, regarding certified security provision at Kilbroney Caravan Park. **(Copy circulated)**

ERT/191/2020: SOUTHERN RELIEF ROAD SCHEME PROVISION OF LIFTING BRIDGE

Read: Report dated 14 December 2020 from Mr C Mallon Director Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism regarding a Lifting Bridge to Newry City and District as part of the Southern Relief Road scheme. **(Copy circulated)**

(7.26pm – Councillor Tinnelly left the meeting)

ERT/192/2020: RENEWAL OF TASCOMI SUBSCRIPTION

Read: Report dated 14 December 2020 from Mr C Jackson Assistant Director Building Control, regarding the renewal of the Tascomi software subscription. **(Copy circulated)**

ERT/193/2020: VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE PROVISION

Read: Report dated 14 December 2020 from Mr A Patterson Assistant Director Tourism Culture & Arts, regarding Visitor Information Centre provision. **(Copy circulated)**

ERT/194/2020: NEWRY BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT (BID)

Read: Report dated 14 December 2020 from Mr C Mallon Director Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism regarding Newry Business Improvement District (BID).

AGREED: **On the proposal of Councillor Burgess seconded by Councillor Savage it was agreed to come out of Closed Session.**

When the Committee came out of closed session the Chairperson reported the following decisions:

**ERT/188/2020: Tourism Signage Programme
NMD Wayfinding Project 2020/21**

AGREED: **On the proposal of Councillor Mulgrew seconded by Councillor Stokes it was agreed to accept the Business Case for Tourism Signage Programme which will be 100% funded by the Department for Communities and procurements as required to progress project.**

ERT/189/2020: Extension of Licence: Kilbroney Park Café

AGREED: **On the proposal of Councillor Stokes seconded by Councillor McAteer it was agreed to extend the Licence for the Kilbroney Park Café for a further 2 year period until 31 December 2022,**

and undertake a new procurement exercise in 2022 for provision from 1 January 2023.

ERT/190/2020: Security Provision: Kilbroney Caravan Park

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Tinnelly seconded by Councillor McAteer it was agreed to approve the Business Case to undertake the relevant procurement exercises to appoint a suitable supplier to meet the requirement set out in Report dated 14 December 2020 from Mr A Patterson Assistant Director Tourism Culture & Arts, regarding certified security provision at Kilbroney Caravan Park

**ERT/191/2020: Southern Relief Road Scheme
Provision of Lifting Bridge**

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Savage seconded by Councillor Mulgrew it was agreed Council Officers re-engage with the appointed Economist through a variation of contract to produce a detailed report for submission to the Department for Infrastructure on the future economic benefits of a Lifting Bridge to Newry City and the District.

ERT/192/2020: Renewal of Tascomi Subscription

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Stokes seconded by Councillor McAteer it was agreed to approve the extension of the IDOX (Tascomi) software package for Building Control for the next 3 years.

ERT/193/2020: Visitor Information Centre Provision

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Burgess seconded by Councillor Curran it was agreed to approve the recommendations set out in Report dated 14 December 2020 from Mr A Patterson Assistant Director Tourism Culture & Arts, regarding Visitor Information Centre provision.

ERT/194/2020: Newry Business Improvement District (BID)

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Savage seconded by Councillor Mulgrew it was agreed based on the detail presented to date in the Draft Business Plan, to approve the Strategy subject to submission of the final draft ahead of Council Meeting on 04

January 2021.

FOR NOTING

ERT/195/2020: UPDATE RE:BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES

Read: Report dated 14 December 2020 from Mr J McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise Employment & Regeneration regarding an update on Business Development Programmes.
(Copy circulated)

AGREED: To note the update provided under business development initiatives as follows:

- **Go For It – producing 135 business plans, between April 2020 and October 2002.**
- **NMD Growth – supporting 443 individual businesses with a total of 4413.75 mentoring hours delivered as at October 2020. In addition to 24 ½ day workshops and 7 thematic programmes implemented from Programme commencement.**
- **Digital Growth – supported individual 72 businesses as at October 2020 with 137.5 hours mentoring support, along with the delivery of 7 workshops and 2 masterclasses.**
- **Tender for Growth – new procurement and supply chain programme appointed, launched in June 2020, with recruitment presently ongoing has already supported 32 businesses as at October 2020, with 253 men.**

ERT/196/2020: UPDATE RE: FULL FIBRE NORTHERN IRELAND (FFNI)

Read: Report dated 14 December 2020 from Mr J McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise Employment & Regeneration providing an update on Full Fibre Northern Ireland (FFNI).
(Copy circulated)

AGREED: To note progress regarding Full Fibre Northern Ireland (FFNI), as per Report dated 14 December 2020 from Mr J McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise Employment & Regeneration.

**ERT/197/2020: HISTORIC ACTION TRACKER
ENTERPRISE REGENERATION & TOURISM**

Read: Action Tracker Report for Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Committee. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: **To note the Historic Action Tracker Report for Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Committee.**

**ERT/198/2020: IMPACT OF PLANNING DECISION
DELAY ON LOCAL ECONOMY**

Read: Report dated 14 December 2020 from Mr C Mallon Director Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism regarding Planning Application processing times and impact on investment decisions. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: **To note Report dated 14 December 2020 from Mr C Mallon Director Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism regarding Planning Application processing times and impact on investment decisions.**

ERT/199/2020: INNOVATION ENTERPRISE ZONES (FREE PORTS)

Read: Report dated 14 December 2020 from Mr C Mallon Director Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism regarding an update on Free Port consultation. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: **To note Report dated 14 December 2020 from Mr C Mallon Director Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism regarding an update on Free Port Consultation exercise and how the project will develop and to note the consultation feedback to date and support the emerging concept of NI Innovation zone within the context of Free Port status.**

ERT/200/2020: IRISH STREET REGENERATION PROJECT

Read: Report dated 14 December 2020 from Mr J McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise Employment & Regeneration regarding the Irish Street Regeneration Project. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: To note Report of the Irish Street Regeneration Working Group Meeting held on 11 November 2020.

ERT/201/2020: **LOUTH / NEWRY MOURNE & DOWN STRATEGIC ALLIANCE MEETING**

Read: Report of Louth / Newry Mourne & Down Strategic Alliance Meeting held on Wednesday 16 September 2020.
(Copy circulated)

AGREED: To note Report of the Louth / Newry Mourne & Down Strategic Alliance Meeting held on Wednesday 16 September 2020.

ERT/202/2020: **PLANNING PERFORMANCE FIGURES – NOVEMBER 2020**

Read: Report regarding Planning Performance Figures for November 2020. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: It was agreed to note the Planning Performance Figures for November 2020.

ERT/203/2020: **UPDATE RE: TACKLING RURAL POVERTY AND SOCIAL ISOLATION PROGRAMMES (TRPSI)**

Read: Report dated 14 December 2020 from Mr G McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise Employment & Regeneration regarding the Tackling Rural Poverty and Social Isolation Programmes.
(Copy circulated)

AGREED: To note progress regarding the delivery of the Tackling Rural Poverty and Social Isolation Programmes (TRPSI).

ERT/204/2020: **UPDATE RE: BREXIT FORUM MEETINGS**

Read: Report dated 14 December 2020 from Mr G McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise Employment & Regeneration regarding Brexit Forum Meetings. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: To note content of Reports of Brexit Forum Meetings held on:
 Thursday 10 September 2020
 Tuesday 06 October 2020
 Tuesday 24 November 2020

ERT/205/2020: **UPDATE RE: URBAN CENTRE MASTERPLANS**

Read: Report dated 14 December 2020 from Mr C Mallon
 Director Enterprise Regeneration Tourism regarding Urban
 Centre Masterplans. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: To note the masterplan priority review exercise to be undertaken for the 6 main Urban Centres through the District Electoral Areas (DEAs).

ERT/206/2020: **UPDATE RE: IRISH STREET CAR PARK**

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Curran seconded by Councillor Savage it was agreed a report be tabled at the ERT Committee Meeting January 2021 containing an update on the Irish Street Car Park.

There being no further business the meeting concluded at 7.55pm.

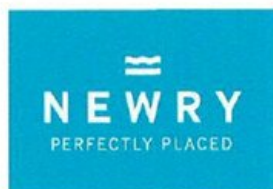
For adoption at the Council Meeting to be held on Monday 04 January 2021.

Signed: **Councillor A McMurray**

Chairperson of Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Committee

Signed: **Mr C Mallon**

Director of Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Committee



BUSINESS
IMPROVEMENT
DISTRICT

Mr Jonathan McGilly,
Newry Mourne and Down District Council
Monaghan Row
Newry
BT35 8DJ

22 December 2020

BY E MAIL

Dear Jonathan

Business Proposal for Newry Business Improvement District

I refer to my previous correspondence.

I have already forwarded the updated consultation report. This reflects 227 respondents. As advised, and noted by CARD Market Research, the themes in the responses are consistent with the interim report shared with ERT.

It should be noted that there are a further 103 votes from members with multiple hereditaments (eg Boots, First Derivatives, the shopping centres) from the 227 respondents that have not been included in the report. Needless to say the multiple responses not factored in would only reinforce the reported trends.

We have closed the consultation reporting but will track any further late responses for information purposes.

The net result is that the draft BID Proposal Business Plan will not change and will be the final one issued for the revote

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries or require any further information.

Yours sincerely

Eamonn Connolly

BID Manager

cc. Fearghal O'Connor, Newry Mourne and Down District Council



NEWRY BID COMPANY LTD
UNIT 8, MONAGHAN COURT,
MONAGHAN STREET,
NEWRY BT35 6BH

T: 028 3025 0303
E: ADMIN@NEWRY.COM

WWW.NEWRY.COM

COMPANY REG.NO: NI636954
VAT REG. NO: 237 2403 28

NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of Neighbourhood Services Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 15 December 2020 at 6.00pm in the Boardroom, District Council Offices, Monaghan Row, Newry and via MS Teams.

Chair: Councillor O Magennis

Deputy Chair: Councillor T Andrews

| | | |
|-----------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Members: | Councillor C Casey | Councillor W Clarke |
| | Councillor D Curran | Councillor A Finnegan |
| | Councillor H McKee | Councillor D Murphy |
| | Councillor K Owen | Councillor D Taylor |

Officials in Attendance:

- Mr J McBride, Director of Neighbourhood Services (Acting)
- Mr K Scullion, Assistant Director Facilities Management and Maintenance
- Mr J Parkes, Assistant Director, Waste Management
- Ms L O'Hare, Democratic Services Officer
- Ms C McAteer, Democratic Services Officer

NS/258/2020: APOLOGIES AND CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

Apologies were received from Cllr. Mason, Cllr. Stokes and Cllr. McKevitt.

NS/259/2020: DECLARATIONS OF "CONFLICTS OF INTEREST"

No declarations of Conflicts of Interest were made.

NS/260/2020: ACTION SHEET OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 17 NOVEMBER 2020

Read: Action Sheet of the Neighbourhood Services Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 17 November 2020. ***(Circulated)***.

AGREED: **On the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor Owen, it was agreed the Action Sheet of the Neighbourhood Services Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 17 November 2020 be noted and actions removed as marked.**

FACILITIES MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE

NS/261/2020: SALE OF DOUBLE PLOTS AT COUNCIL'S MUNICIPAL CEMETERIES, SUSPENDED AT ONSET OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Read: Report dated 15 December 2020 from Mr K Scullion re: permitting sale of double plots at Council's Municipal Cemeteries, suspended at onset of Covid-19 pandemic. *(Circulated)*.

AGREED: **On the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor Casey, it was agreed to note the contents of this report and agree to rescind the amendment to Rule 5 of the Councils Rules and Regulations for the Control of the Public Cemeteries within Newry, Mourne and Down District, approved by the Council on 30th March 2020 to restrict sale of burial rights to single plots. This will permit the sale of double plots. Families affected by the restriction to be written to and offered the second burial plot beside the one they already have, where this remains available.**

WASTE MANAGEMENT

NS/262/2020: UPDATE ON ENFORCEMENT IMPROVEMENT PLAN – BENCHMARKING

Read: Report dated 15 December 2020 from Mr J Parkes, re: update on Enforcement Improvement Plan - Benchmarking. *(Circulated)*.

Members welcomed the update that the enforcement section now had their full compliment of staff in post and said a strong message must go out in relation to action being taken to deal with dog fouling, with more fixed penalty notices being issued and messages being relayed through social media and perhaps by having staff in parks and other areas of concern, to spread the message about encouraging responsible dog ownership. Reference was made to the need to implement further stages of the Council's Enforcement Improvement Plan

AGREED: **On the proposal of Councillor Clarke, seconded by Councillor Andrews, it was agreed to note the content of this report, with further information being provided as part of the Council's Enforcement Improvement Plan.**

AGREED: **At the request of Councillor McKee it was also agreed officers investigate if the Council owned car park at Ameracam Lane, Cranfield, was closed and provide an update to him.**

FOR NOTING

NS/263/2020: NIEA RE: LANDFILL ALLOWANCE (NI) REGULATIONS 2004 (AS AMENDED) 15TH SCHEME YEAR 2019-2020 – FINAL RECONCILIATION

Read: Letter dated 26 November 2020 re: NIEA Landfill Allowance (NI) Regulations 2004 (As Amended) 15th Scheme Year 2019-2020 – Final Reconciliation. *(Circulated)*.

AGREED: **It was agreed to mark this correspondence noted.**

NS/264/2020: **Arc21 JC MEMBERS MONTHLY BULLETIN – DECEMBER 2020**

Read: Arc21 JC Members Monthly Bulletin – December 2020. *(Circulated)*.

AGREED: **It was agreed to mark this correspondence noted.**

NS/265/2020: **Arc21 JC MINUTES – 29 OCTOBER 2020**

Read: Arc21 JC Meeting Minutes held on Thursday 29 October 2020. *(Circulated)*.

AGREED: **It was agreed to mark this correspondence noted.**

NS/266/2020: **HISTORIC ACTIONS TRACKING SHEET**

Read: Historic Actions Tracking Sheet *(Circulated)*.

AGREED: **It was unanimously agreed the Historic Actions Tracking Sheet of the Neighbourhood Services Committee Meetings be noted and actions removed as marked.**

Issues raised

- Defective wall at Shimna River Newcastle – Mr Scullion advised Council were in negotiations with Rivers Agency as it was considered that works were going to be required within the river itself and that would require a consent from Rivers Agency. Subsequently the Council's own internal estate skills believed there was a solution to this which would not involve entering into the water course and that the solution could be achieved from works on the land itself and consent would not therefore be required. Officers were currently finalising their view on this which would be a lower cost option than having to work within the river itself and if that was the case then it was hoped to proceed with this in the early part of the new year.
- Christmas illuminations at Newcastle Harbour – Mr Scullion said it was agreed that illuminations be extended along the pier provided it was in agreement with the Commissioner of Irish Lights as there was a navigational aid at the end of the pier. However, their view was that this would not be the right thing

to do and so this was not proceeded with but there was still the lights along the Harbour.

- Replacement of up to 13 No. small vans for refuse collection – Mr Parkes advised as part of a recent Notice of Motion and the Fleet Transition Strategy, Officers were looking at alternative fuels from diesel and a report, more steered towards a greener fleet, would be brought back to Committee in January.
- Household recycling centres permit scheme for private operators – Mr Parkes advised officers were looking at a permit system for commercial customers in HRCs but COVID had closed sites down and whilst sites were now open and being maintained again it was on reduced opening hours with certain restrictions in place. Hopefully in the New Year this permit system would be moved forward. Councillor Clarke said that expressions of interest in such a permit system should be sought now to gauge demand.
- Public Convenience Strategy – Mr Scullion said the Strategy was currently out for consultation which would close on 12 February. The information would then be analysed and a report brought back to Committee for final approval.
- Public Convenience in Saintfield – Mr Scullion advised as agreed by Council, not all public conveniences were open as a result of the COVID pandemic with demands on staff resources and the need to maintain a very high standard of hygiene in facilities. He said the facility in Saintfield was currently not one which was opened but he understood repairs had been completed and the facility was ready for re-opening when this was agreed by Council.

EXEMPT INFORMATION ITEMS

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

Items 10-14 are deemed to be exempt under paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (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.

On the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor Owen, it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on this item.

NS/267/2020: ARC21 JC MEETING MINUTES – THURSDAY 29 OCTOBER 2020

Read: Arc21 In Committee Meeting Minutes held on Thursday 29 October 2020. *(Circulated)*.

**NS/268/2020: NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES DIRECTORATE
PROCUREMENT ACTION PLAN UPDATE**

Read: Report dated 15 December 2020 from Mr J McBride providing an update on the implementation of the Neighbourhood Services Directorate Procurement Action Plan. *(Circulated)*.

NS/269/2020: STRATEGIC WASTE MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

Read: Report dated 15 December 2020 from Mr J McBride re: progress being made in relation to joint working between the Councils in relation to waste management and to seek permission to move to the next stage of the process. *(Circulated)*.

**NS/270/2020: BUSINESS CASE FOR PEST CONTROL SERVICES
ACROSS COUNCIL FACILITIES**

Read: Report dated 15 December 2020 from Mr K Scullion re: business case for pest control services across Council facilities. *(Circulated)*.

NS/271/2020: MAINTENANCE OF COUNCIL PUBLIC SPACE CCTV

Read: Report dated 15 December 2020 from Mr K Scullion re: procurement of services for maintenance of the Council Public Space CCTV systems. *(Circulated)*.

Councillor McKee proposed and Councillor Clarke seconded to come out of closed session.

When the Committee was out of closed session the Chairperson reported the following had been agreed:-

Item 10 – Arc21 Joint Committee Meeting Minutes held on Thursday 29 October 2020

AGREED: It was agreed to note the Arc21 Joint Committee Meeting Minutes held on Thursday 29 October 2020

Item 11 – Report on Neighbourhood Services Directorate Procurement Action Plan Update

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor McKee, seconded by Councillor Murphy, it was agreed to approve the progress update report for the period 1 September – 30 November 2020.

Item 12 – Strategic Waste Management Arrangements

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor Casey, it was agreed to:-

- Move to the next stage of the process by agreeing to a Full Economic Appraisal being undertaken in respect of the top three options identified in the Strategic Investment Board (SIB) report; and
- Agree to this Council making a financial contribution of c.£3,600 towards the costs of the Full Economic Appraisal. The total cost of c.£39,600 to be shared equally amongst all eleven Councils.

Item 13 – Business case for pest control services across Council facilities

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Clarke, seconded by Councillor Andrews, it was agreed to accept the findings of the Business Case presented at Appendix 1 of this report. This would see the Council appoint, through a tender process or framework, a suitably competent pest control operator to provide both planned and reactive pest control service for all Council facilities over a three-year period or up to a maximum value of £90,000.

It was also agreed that the Director of Neighbourhood Services would speak to the Director of Active and Healthy Communities about the potential for the re-introduction of a pest control service for the public.

Item 14 – Maintenance of Council Public Space CCTV

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Clarke, seconded by Councillor Murphy, it was agreed to note the content of the report and approve the recommendations as detailed in Section 1.6 of the report.

It was also agreed to write to the Justice Minister at Stormont on assistance with the maintenance costs of Council public space CCTV.

There being no further business the meeting ended at 7.30 pm.

For adoption at the Council Meeting to be held on Monday 4 January 2021.

Signed: Councillor O Magennis
Chairperson of Neighbourhood Services Committee

Signed: Mr J McBride
Director of Neighbourhood Services (Acting)

NEWRY MOURNE AND DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

**Minutes of Strategy Policy & Resources Committee Meeting held on
Thursday 17 December 2020 at 6.00pm via Microsoft Teams & Downshire Civic Centre
(Hybrid)**

In the Chair: Councillor G Sharvin

In Attendance:

| | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Councillor P Brown | Councillor P Byrne |
| Councillor H Gallagher | Councillor O Hanlon |
| Councillor R Howell | Councillor A Lewis |
| Councillor H McKee | Councillor O Magennis |
| Councillor D Murphy | Councillor B Ó Muirí |
| Councillor M Savage | |

Also in attendance: Councillor T Andrews Councillor G Stokes

Officials in Attendance: Mrs M Ward, Chief Executive
Mrs D Carville, Director of Corporate Services
Mr C Mallon, Director of Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism
Mrs C Miskelly, Assistant Director Corporates Services, HR & Safeguarding
Mrs R Mackin, Assistant Director Corporate Planning & Policy
Mrs A Robb, Assistant Director Corporate Services (Administration)
Mr P Tamati, Assistant Director Leisure and Sport
Mr C Quinn, Assistant Director Estates & Project Management
Mr F O'Connor, Legal Advisor
Mrs J McMurray, Legal Advisor
Miss S Taggart, Democratic Services Manager
Ms L O'Hare, Democratic Services Officer

SPR/186/2020: APOLOGIES AND CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

Apologies were received from Councillors Enright and Walker.

SPR/187/2020: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Andrews declared an interest in item 10 – Carlingford Lough Greenway.

SPR/188/2020: ACTION SHEET ARISING FROM STRATEGY, POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETINGS HELD ON THURSDAY 12 NOVEMBER 2020 & SPECIAL STRATEGY, POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 1 DECEMBER 2020

Read: Action Sheets of the Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee Meetings held on 12 November 2020 & Special Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 1 December 2020. **(Copy circulated)**

SPR/160/2020 – Request to use Monaghan Row

SPR/169/2020 – Request from PHA for National Testing Partnership Venue in Newry (Walk-in test facility)

Councillor Lewis asked for an update in relation to the above requests. Mr Quinn confirmed that the Southern Trust had not had time to consider the use of Monaghan Row as their focus was on Craigavon at this stage but had indicated they would consider it in time.

In response to a query from Councillor Byrne, Mr Quinn confirmed a timeframe could not be given at this stage by the Trust due to the current pressures they were under however he would continue to liaise with the team and would continue to update Members.

Mr Quinn further advised that Council would continue to work with the PHA, should they need to use other sites, but at present they only required a testing site in Newry.

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Savage, seconded by Councillor Murphy, it was agreed that the action sheet from the Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee Meetings held on 12 November 2020 & Special Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee held on 1 December 2020, be approved.

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

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Gallagher, seconded by Councillor Howell, it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on the next matter 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 a particular person (including the Council holding that information) and the public may, by resolution, be excluded during this item of business.

SPR/189/2020: VERBAL UPDATE TO MEMBERS REGARDING TRADE UNION DISPUTE, NI EXECUTIVE'S RESTRICTIONS ANNOUNCEMENT & COUNCIL FINANCES

The Chief Executive and Mrs Carville updated Members on recent conciliatory meetings that had taken place involving the Labour Relations Agency and Trade Unions.

The Chief Executive advised Council's Emergency Planning Group were meeting on Friday 18 December and Members would be advised what actions were taken to comply with the new regulations announced this evening. She stated that meetings would continue virtually.

Mrs Carville provided a verbal update to Members on Council Finances as requested at the recent Strategic Finance Working Group.

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Brown, seconded by Councillor Gallagher, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.

Noted: The Chairperson advised that, while in closed session, Council officers provided an update to Members on the Council Finances, Trade Union disputes and the Executives' restrictions announcement.

CORPORATE PLANNING AND POLICY

SPR/190/2020: **NEWRY MOURNE AND DOWN CORPORATE PLAN 2021 - 2023**

Read: Report dated 17 December 2020 from Mrs R Mackin, Assistant Director Corporate Planning and Policy regarding, Newry Mourne and Down Corporate Plan 2021 - 2023 **(Copy circulated)**

Mrs Mackin provided an update to Members regarding the Corporate Plan 2021-2023. She advised the Plan had been tabled at the March 2020 Strategy Policy and Resources Committee meeting but was not adopted due to the pandemic restrictions. In view of the ongoing pandemic, it had been agreed to seek the opinions of residents, both on the Corporate Plan as well as the new emerging priorities in a post Covid-19 environment; the results of which had been presented to Members at a recent workshop. She recommended that the Council approve the draft Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Corporate Plan 2021-2023 now tabled.

Councillor Magennis asked whether the community centre provision for Warrenpoint and Camlough outlined in Key Actions of the document could be fast tracked due to the level of mental health issues arising following the pandemic.

The Chairperson queried the progress of Downpatrick Regeneration and asked if anything further could be added, as at present, the wording was quite generic, therefore people may not understand what regeneration meant.

Mrs Mackin responded to the Members' queries, stating the Corporate Plan was a strategic document that highlighted the high-level objectives and actions that, as an organisation, the Council wanted to deliver on. She stated the details would be cascaded to the strategies that support the delivery of the plan and the detail of individual projects would be within those plans.

Mrs Carville noted Councillors Magennis's concerns and highlighted that the timing of any capital build would be considered through the Strategic Finance Working Group, as part of the rates process and any project boards that would then be established.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor McKee, seconded by Councillor Magennis, that Members approve the draft Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Corporate Plan 2021-2023.

FOR NOTING

SPR/191/2020: **ACTION SHEET FOR ALBERT BASIN TASK AND FINISH WORKING GROUP MEETING – 19 NOVEMBER 2020**

Read: Action sheet for Albert Basin Task and Finish Working Group meeting – 19 November 2020. **(Copy circulated)**

Councillor Savage expressed his thanks to all the organisations, including Newry 2020, that had been involved in the process and who had played a full and positive role in the Albert Basin project thus far. He asked that connectivity was maintained going forward through the stakeholder forum and asked that more information be presented in future as to

how the stakeholder forum would link in with the project board to ensure the retention of community involvement and insight in the delivery of the Albert Basin Park project.

Agreed: It was agreed to note the contents of the Action Sheet.

SPR/192/2020: PERFORMANCE AND IMPROVEMENT UPDATE

Read: Report dated 17 December 2020 from Mrs D Carville, Director of Corporate Services, regarding Performance and Improvement Update (Copy circulated)

Agreed: It was agreed to note the contents of the report.

SPR/193/2020: MINUTES OF NEWRY CCR PB MEETING – 12.11.2020 & 10.12.2020

Read: Minutes of Newry CCR PB Meeting – 12.11.2020 & 10.12.2020

In response to a query from Councillor Byrne, Mr Mallon advised that the most recent meeting minutes were ratified via email through the Project Board Members therefore they were tabled at the meeting this evening, and this would be the process going forward to ensure timely ratification of the actions.

Agreed: It was agreed to note the contents of the minutes.

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

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Savage, seconded by Councillor Magennis, it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on the next matter 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 a particular person (including the Council holding that information) and the public may, by resolution, be excluded during this item of business.

SPR/194/2020: PLANNING ADVISORY CONSULTANT

Read: Report dated 17 December 2020 from Mr C Mallon, Director of Enterprise Regeneration and Tourism, regarding Planning Advisory Consultant. (Copy circulated)

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Savage, seconded by Councillor Gallagher, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Savage, seconded by Councillor Hanlon, that Members consider the report, and approve the extension of the Planning Advisory Consultant commission for a further 12 weeks at the cost indicated in the officer's report with a 3 month period review.

SPR/195/2020: COVID-19 – IMPACT ON LEISURE SERVICES UPDATE

Read: Report dated 17 December 2020 from Mr M Lipsett, Director of Active and Healthy Communities, regarding Covid-19 – Impact on Leisure Services Update. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Savage, seconded by Councillor Gallagher, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Gallagher, seconded by Councillor Byrne, that Elected Members note the additional financial impact of Covid-19 on indoor leisure income, noting that membership discounts and extensions had been applied due to the pandemic. And consider and agree to approve officers to continue to make appropriate adjustments to these memberships based on COVID-19 restrictions for the remainder of the financial year.

Councillor Andrews left the meeting for the next item – 7.21pm.

SPR/196/2020: CARLINGFORD LOUGH GREENWAY

Read: Report dated 17 December 2020 from Mr F O'Connor, Head of Legal Administration (Acting), regarding Carlingford Lough Greenway **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Savage, seconded by Councillor Gallagher, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor McKee, seconded by Councillor Murphy, it was agreed that Council now proceed to take the necessary legal action, including potentially vesting the property to secure the required land title to allow the Carlingford Lough Greenway project to proceed.

Councillor Andrews re-joined the meeting at this stage – 7.24pm.

SPR/197/2020: CONACRE AGREEMENTS

Read: Report dated 17 December 2020 from Mr F O'Connor, Head of Legal Administration (Acting), regarding Conacre agreements. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Savage, seconded by Councillor Gallagher, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Savage, seconded by Councillor McKee that Elected Members approve the issue of an Expression of Interest in respect of

the lands listed in the officer's report which will include a minimum conacre licence fee as provided by the Council's Valuer. The Expression of Interest to be advertised once in a local paper available in the vicinity of the lands listed in the report. That Elected Members agree to Council entering into a Licence Agreement with the highest bidder for a period of three years in respect of each of the lands listed.

SPR/198/2020: HEALTH CASH PLAN

Read: Report dated 17 December 2020 from Mrs C Miskelly, Assistant Director of Corporate Services (HR & Safeguarding), regarding Health Cash Plan. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Savage, seconded by Councillor Gallagher, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Savage, seconded by Councillor Hanlon, it was agreed that Members support the continuation of the Employee Health Cash Plan through the alternative provider identified at 2.1.2; for the reasons outlined within 2.1-2.3 of the report.

SPR/199/2020: PHA REPORT

Read: Report dated 17 December 2020 from Mr C Quinn, Assistant Director of Estates and Project Management, regarding request from PHA for National Testing Partnership Venue in Newry (walk-in testing facility). **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Savage, seconded by Councillor Gallagher, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Savage, seconded by Councillor Gallagher It was agreed that Members consider & agree the following recommendations:

- That Members give approval for a further report be brought to SP&R Committee prior to the end of the initial 3 months, to gauge if the testing facility is to remain in place for the remaining 3 months of the lease period (or potentially longer) and how this would impact on future council events at Albert Basin.
- That Members give approval for a peppercorn rent to be received from PHA for this lease and that associated approval be sought from the Department for this sub-value disposal.
- That Members give approval for the lease to agreed and signed in advance of the following:
 - Departmental approval being received for this sub-value disposal;
 - and full Council approval of the SP&R minutes.

SPR/200/2020: SURPLUS ASSET UPDATE

Read: Report dated 17 December 2020 from Mr C Quinn, Assistant Director of Estates and Project Management, regarding Surplus Asset Update. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Savage, seconded by Councillor Gallagher, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Murphy, seconded by Councillor Savage that Elected Members note the content of the report and agree the following:

- 3.2 - Play Area at Bleary Bungalows, Chancellors Road, Newry. Members approved to accept the offer listed as option 3 of the officer's report, with continued discussions with potential purchasers.
- 3.3 - Daisy Hill Nursery, Carnagat Section, Daisy Hill, Newry. Members approved to proceed with Option 4 within this report and further proceed with Option 3, if necessary.
- 3.4 - Land for No.13 and No.15 The Square, Ballynahinch, BT24 8AE (Steel Structure). Members approved for this site to remain on the open market in order to determine the level of interest from potential purchasers.
- 3.5 - Members approval for the next stages of the conveyancing process listed in 3.2 and 3.3 to proceed immediately.

SPR/201/2020 MULTI-COUNCIL TENDER PROVISION OF INSURANCE SERVICES FOR THE EASTERN SUB REGION – APPROVAL

Read: Report dated 17 December 2020 from Mr C Quinn, Assistant Director of Estates and Project Management, regarding Multi – Council Tender provision of Insurance services for the Eastern Sub Region – Approval. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Savage, seconded by Councillor Gallagher, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Savage, seconded by Councillor Magennis It was agreed that Elected Members approve the appointment of Willis Tower Watson as per the 'Multi-Council Tender – Provision of Insurance Services for the Eastern Sub Region Exercise' for a 4 year term, with the contract to be reviewed prior to any extension following the initial 2-year period.

FOR NOTING

SPR/202/2020 STRATEGIC FINANCE WORKING GROUP ACTION SHEET – 14 DECEMBER 2020

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Savage, seconded by Councillor Gallagher, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.

Noted: It was agreed to note the contents of the Strategic Finance Working Group Action Sheet – 14 December 2020.

There being no further business, the Meeting concluded at 8.08pm.

Signed: Councillor Gareth Sharvin
Chairperson

Signed: Dorinnia Carville
Director of Corporate Services

NEWRY, MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Ref: AHC/2020

**Minutes of Active and Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on
Monday 21 December 2020 at 6.00pm via Microsoft Teams**

Chairperson: Councillor L McEvoy

In attendance: **(Councillors)**
 Councillor T Andrews
 Councillor M Gibbons
 Councillor K McKeivitt
 Councillor McMurray
 Councillor D Taylor
 Councillor C Casey
 Councillor G Malone
 Councillor G O'Hare
 Councillor W Walker

Also in attendance: Councillor D Curran
 Councillor O Hanlon
 Councillor G Sharvin

Officials in attendance: Mr E Devlin, Assistant Director Health & Wellbeing
 Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director Community Engagement
 Mr P Tamati, Assistant Director Leisure and Sport
 Ms S Taggart, Democratic Services Manager
 Ms L Dillon, Democratic Services Officer

AHC/151/2020: APOLOGIES & CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

Apologies were received from the following Councillors:

Councillor Gallagher
 Councillor Mason
 Councillor Finnegan
 Councillor Ó'Muirí
 Councillor Trainor

AHC/152/2020: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

**AHC/153/2020: ACTION SHEET
ACTIVE & HEALTHY COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD
MONDAY 16 NOVEMBER 2020**

Read: Action sheet of the Active & Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on Monday 16 November 2020. **(Copy circulated)**

AHC/206/2019: Adoption of Suicide Down to Zero

Noted: Prior to setting up a Working Group with the Trust, a Connections course has been identified to provide advance training for Councillors and details of this training will be forwarded to Councillors at the earliest opportunity in 2021.

NOTICE OF MOTION

**AHC/154/2020: NOTICE OF MOTION
RE: SUSTAINABILITY AND COMMUNITY GROWING INITIATIVES**

Read: Report dated 21 December 2020 from Mr E Devlin, Assistant Director, Health and Wellbeing regarding a Notice of Motion on Sustainability and Community Growing Initiatives.
(Copy circulated)

The following Notice of Motion came forward for consideration in the name of Councillor A Lewis:

“We note that Newry, Mourne and Down District Council aims to embed the ethos of sustainability throughout its operations. Sustainable development is about meeting the needs of people today and providing them with a good quality of life without compromising the quality of life of future generations. With that in mind this Council commits to producing a report on how we could be making funding available which could be utilised by community groups for the benefit of creating community gardens, encouraging the planting of apple, peach and pear trees, along with other edible fruit and veg plants. Making use of vacant lands which are within our ownership. We also commit to helping community groups engage with other public agencies to identify land which could be used for any such project.”

AGREED: It was unanimously agreed to defer the Notice of Motion regarding Sustainability and Community Growing Initiatives, for consideration at the Active & Health Communities Committee Meeting to be held on Monday 18 January 2021.

**AHC/155/2020: NOTICE OF MOTION
RE: DUNLEATH PARK**

Read: Report dated 21 December 2020 from Mr P Tamati, Assistant Director, Leisure and Sport, regarding a Notice of Motion on Dunleath Park. **(Copy circulated)**

The following Notice of Motion came forward for consideration in the names of Councillors Trainor, Sharvin and Curran:

“This Council recognises the importance of Dunleath Park to Downpatrick and the District, through sports, recreation, tourism and regeneration. With this importance and opportunity to develop Dunleath, this council will establish a working group of Downpatrick DEA Cllrs and council officers to establish a development plan for Dunleath that will include walking and cycling lanes, improvement to the MUGA and sports pitches, and gardens including sensory gardens.”

Councillor Sharvin formally proposed the Motion. He understood a report would be prepared for submission to the AHC Committee Meeting in January 2021, however he highlighted that the objective of the Motion was for Council to realise the potential and opportunity Dunleath Park provides not only to Downpatrick but to the wider District in terms of the importance of having outdoor space that meets the needs of everyone in the community and to set up a Working Group.

He then raised the following points:

- Downpatrick currently did not have a town park for families to enjoy and which would regenerate the town.
- Dunleath Park is underutilised in terms of sport provision and for the people of Downpatrick.
- A Working Group including Downpatrick District Electoral Area Councillors with relevant Council Officers, needs to establish a development plan for Dunleath Park to improve health and wellbeing for citizens; improve the standard of existing sports pitches at the Park; introduce new sports to the area which will complement the Leisure Centre in Downpatrick; identify funding partnerships with relevant Government departments and Council funding; examine the floodplain areas and establish the areas within the Park that can be developed.

Councillor Curran seconded the Motion supporting the comments made by Councillor Sharvin.

Councillor Hanlon supported the Motion.

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor O'Hare, it was agreed to note the Notice of Motion regarding Dunleath Park and officers to now consider the content of the Motion and table a report at the AHC Committee Meeting in January 2021 outlining the next steps.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

AHC/156/2020

NMD COMMUNITY COORDINATION HUB

Read: Report dated 21 December 2020 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement, regarding the NMD Community Coordination Hub. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor O'Hare it was agreed as follows:

- To note Report dated 21 December 2020 from Ms J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement, regarding the NMD Community Coordination Hub;
- To note the Action Sheets arising from Community Coordination Hub (CHH) meetings;
- To approve the actions in the Action Sheets from November CCH meeting;
- To approve the amended Terms of Reference (ToR)

AHC/157/2020

**DEPARTMENT FOR COMMUNITIES
COVID 19 FUNDING**

Read: Report dated 21 December 2020 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement, regarding DfC additional Covid 19 Funding:

- Food & Essential Supplies Fund - £191,638.83
- Warm, Well & Connected Fund - £49,728.77
- Volunteering Support Fund - £47,909.71 .

(Copy circulated)

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor McKevitt it was agreed as follows:

- To note Report dated 21 December 2020 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement, regarding DfC additional Covid 19 Funding
- To grant approval to the Council's COVID-19 Community Coordination Hub (CCH) to distribute, allocate or award the following additional COVID-19 funding awarded by the Department for Communities (DfC) in keeping with the purposes of and conditions attached to each fund:
 - Food & Essential Supplies Fund - £191,638.83
 - Warm, Well & Connected Fund - £49,728.77
 - Volunteering Support Fund - £47,909.71
- To note DfC correspondence relating to potential additional support for vulnerable households/communities, in the event of a non-negotiated outcome and provide initial approval to initiate support mechanisms through Council's existing Community Support Plan & CCH in the event of a no deal Brexit.

AHC/158/2020

**DEPARTMENT FOR COMMUNITIES
COMMUNITY ARTS, CULTURE & HERITAGE PROJECTS
(DOWNPATRICK NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL AREA)**

Read: Report dated 21 December 2020 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement, regarding DfC Funding for Community Arts, Culture and Heritage projects in the Downpatrick Neighbourhood Renewal area. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor O'Hare it was agreed as follows:

- To note Report dated 21 December 2020 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement, regarding DfC

funding for Community Arts, Culture and Heritage projects in the Downpatrick Neighbourhood Renewal area.

- **Council to be the lead organisation in applying for, managing and distributing the Department for Communities (DfC) investment of £11,486.84 funding for Community arts, Culture and Heritage projects to community groups within the Downpatrick Neighbourhood Renewal Area (Downpatrick NRA), as requested by the Chairperson of Downpatrick Neighbourhood Renewal Area Partnership (Downpatrick NRAP).**

AHC/159/2020

**DEPARTMENT FOR COMMUNITIES
COMMUNITY ARTS, CULTURE & HERITAGE PROJECTS
(NEWRY NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL AREA)**

Read: Report dated 21 December 2020 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement, regarding DfC Funding for Community Arts, Culture and Heritage projects in the Newry Neighbourhood Renewal area. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: **On the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor O'Hare the following was agreed:**

- **To note Report dated 21 December 2020 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement, regarding DfC funding for Community Arts, Culture and Heritage projects in the Newry Neighbourhood Renewal area.**
- **Council to be the lead organisation in applying for, managing and distributing the Department for Communities (DfC) investment of £19,370.31 funding for Community arts, Culture and Heritage projects to community groups within the Newry Neighbourhood Renewal Area (Newry NRA), as requested by the Chairperson of Newry Neighbourhood Renewal Area Partnership (Newry NRAP).**

AHC/160/2020

DISTRICT ELECTORAL AREA (DEA) FORUMS

Read: Report dated 21 December 2020 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement, regarding an update on District Electoral Area Forums. **(Copy circulated)**

Councillor Walker expressed his congratulations to the Council's 7 No. DEA Coordinators and said they should be commended on their tireless work throughout the year to help people and he asked Ms Hillen to pass on the Council's gratitude to everyone involved.

Councillor Andrews concurred with Councillor Walker in expressing his thanks to everyone concerned and who had worked so hard and who had made many sacrifices

throughout the year.

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor McKevitt, seconded by Councillor Andrews it was agreed as follows:

- To note Report dated 21 December 2020 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement, regarding an update regarding District Electoral Area Forums.
- To approve the actions in the Action Sheets attached for:
 - Mournes DEA Forum Private Meeting held on Friday 6 November 2020.
 - Slieve Gullion DEA Forum Private Meeting held on Friday 6 November 2020.
 - Newry DEA Forum Private Meeting held on Wednesday 2 December 2020.
 - Slieve Gullion DEA Forum Private Meeting held on Tuesday 8 December 2020.
 - Crotlieve DEA Forum Private Meeting held on Tuesday 8 December 2020.
- Ms J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement, to update Councillor Casey regarding a site at Sugar Island for the Willie Mailie statue.

LEISURE AND SPORTS

AHC/161/2020

EVERYBODY ACTIVE 2020

Read: Report dated 21 December 2020 from Mr P Tamati, Assistant Director Leisure and Sport, regarding the discontinuation of Sport NI funding for Council's Everybody Active 2020 programme. **(Copy circulated)**

Members expressed their disappointment at the withdrawal of Sport NI funding for the Everybody Active 2020 Programme.

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor McKevitt, seconded by Councillor Casey, it was agreed to note that the Sport NI Funding for Council's Everybody Active 2020 programme would be discontinued from 1st April 2021. It was also agreed that efficiencies and provisions be made within the rates estimates process to help absorb the impact of discounted EBA 2020 funding within the Council area. It was further agreed the Council write to the Chief Executive of Sport NI extending an invitation to meet with the Council to discuss matters regarding the discontinuation of Sport NI funding for the Everybody Active 2020 programme and to advise on any other funding avenues which may be available from Sport NI going forward.

Agreed: It was agreed that, on receipt of relevant details, Mr P Tamati, Assistant Director, Leisure & Sport, to update Councillor McKevitt regarding problems with online bookings and cancellation fees at Newry Leisure Centre.

HEALTH & WELLBEING

AHC/162/2020 **CONSULTATION – FOOD STANDARDS AGENCY
REVIEW OF FOOD LAW CODE OF PRACTICE AND
IMPLEMENTATION OF COMPETENCY FRAMEWORK**

Read: Report dated 21 December 2020 from Mr E Devlin, Assistant Director Health & Wellbeing, regarding the Food Standards Agency consultation on the Review of Food Law Code of Practice and Implementation of Competency Framework. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Andrews seconded by Councillor O Hare it was agreed to return the Consultation response, on behalf of Newry Mourne & Down District Council, to the Food Standards Agency regarding the Review of Food Law Code of Practice and Implementation of Competency Framework consultation.

AHC/163/2020 **PUBLIC HEALTH AGENCY
LEADING THE WAY PROGRAMME PILOT**

Read: Report dated 21 December 2020 from Mr E Devlin, Assistant Director Leisure and Sport, regarding the development of a Service Level Agreement with the Public Health Agency NI to run a Pilot Active Travel Programme within the District – based on the 'Leading the Way' programme. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor McMurray, seconded by Councillor O Hare it was agreed to approve the development of a Service Level Agreement with the Public Health Agency to deliver a pilot Active Travel programme based on the 'Leading The Way' programme.

FOR NOTING - COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

AHC/164/2020 **MINUTES
POLICING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP
(PCSP) MEETINGS**

Read: Report dated 21 December 2020 from Ms J Hillen, Assistant Director Community Engagement, enclosing Minutes of Policing & Community Safety Partnership Meetings. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: It was agreed to note the Minutes of Policing & Community Partnership Meeting held on Tuesday 29 September 2020, which were approved at the PCSP & Policing Committee Meeting held on Thursday 26 November 2020.

AHC/165/2020 **REPORT**
NEWRY NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL PARTNERSHIP (NRP)

Read: Report dated 21 December 2020 from Ms J Hillen, Assistant Director Community Engagement, enclosing the Report of the Newry Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership Meeting. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: It was agreed to note Minutes of the Newry Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership (NRP) Meeting held on Thursday 1 October 2020, which was approved at the Newry Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership Meeting held on Wednesday 25 November 2020.

CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

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

AHC/166/2020 **LEASE OF LAND**
THE LINKS PLAYING FIELDS, STRANGFORD

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor McEvoy, it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on the next matters 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.

Read: Report dated 21 December 2020 from Mr P Tamati, Assistant Director Leisure & Sport, regarding the leasing of land at The Links Playing Fields Strangford. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor McEvoy it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor McEvoy, seconded by Councillor O'Hare it was agreed to adhere to the terms of the Lease between Council and Strangford and District Playgroup Association and After Schools Club regarding lands at The Links Playing Fields

Strangford and the recommencement of ground rent payments at a cost of £140 per annum with effect from 1st January 2021

AHC/167/2020

LEISURE PUBLIC TENDERS

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor McEvoy, it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on the next matters 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.

Read: Report dated 21 December 2020 from Mr P Tamati, Assistant Director, Leisure and Sport, regarding Public Tenders for the following:

- Facility Alarms and CCTV
- Washroom Services
- Uniforms
- Pool Moving Floor Services

(Copy circulated)

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor McEvoy, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor O Hare seconded by Councillor McEvoy it was agreed to approve the following regarding Public Tenders for Leisure:

1. The Business Case as per appendix 1 for servicing, repairs and maintenance for facility alarms and CCTV and approve procurement via a public tender for these services and supplies.
2. The Business Case as per appendix 2 for Washroom Services and approve procurement via a public tender for these services and supplies.
3. The Business Case as per appendix 3 for Uniforms and approve procurement via a public tender for these services and supplies.
4. The Business Case as per appendix 4 for servicing, repairs and maintenance for pool moving floors and approve procurement via a public tender for these services and supplies.
5. That officers undertake the appropriate evaluation of the above public tenders in line with procurement guidelines and appoint

a preferred bidder and enter into a contract for up to 3 years to the value outlined on each business case.

AHC/168/2020

WARRENPOINT COMMUNITY CENTRE

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor McEvoy, it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on the next matters 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.

Read: Report dated 21 December 2020 from Mr M Lipsett, Director, Active & Healthy Communities regarding Warrenpoint Community Centre. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor McEvoy, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor McEveitt seconded by Councillor Gibbons it was agreed as follows regarding Warrenpoint Community Centre:

1. Accept the business case for professional fees attached to the officer's report and proceed to develop the scheme to planning application stage.
2. Approve the inclusion of an additional £100,000 in 21/22 rate estimates to cover any associated costs with getting the scheme to planning stage.
3. Approve the updating of the 2018 feasibility study to include virtual consultations in Jan 2021.

AHC/169/2020

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor McEvoy, it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on the next matters 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.

Read: Report dated 21 December 2020 from Ms J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement regarding financial assistance

(Copy circulated)

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor McEvoy, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor McEveitt, the following was agreed:

- **To keep the Deed of Charge Arrangements For Capital Community/Sport Grants;**
- **To enter into a retention and disposal agreement for Minor Works for Community/Sport Grants;**
- **Adopt the sanctions process for Minor infringements;**
- **Call 1 2021/2022 timeframe for implementation.**

AHC/170/2020

**PREPARATIONS RE:
NI PROTOCOLS EU EXIT**

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor McEvoy, it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on the next matters 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.

Read: Report dated 21 December 2020 from Mr E Devlin, Assistant Director, Health & Wellbeing regarding preparations for NI Protocols for EU exit.

(Copy circulated)

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor McEvoy, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Andrews seconded by Councillor O Hare it was agreed as follows regarding NI Protocols for EU exit:

1. To delegate the power to the Director of Active and Healthy Communities and assistant Director Health and Wellbeing to authorise appropriately qualified staff to carry out duties under the provisions of The Food Safety (N.I.) Order 1991 (as amended), the Food Hygiene Rating Act (N.I.) and any orders or regulations made thereunder or relating to the foregoing or having effect by virtue of The European Communities Act 1972 and the European Union Withdrawal Act 2018 as amended.
2. To delegate the power to the Director of Active and Healthy Communities and assistant Director Health and Wellbeing to

authorise other individuals to carry out duties as required regarding implementation of NI Protocol.

3. To allocate an amount of £20000 subject to Rates Estimates Process to procure required IT system to facilitate Import Checks

FOR NOTING

AHC/171/2020

**SHORT TERM HIRE
UNITS AT SAINTFIELD COMMUNITY CENTRE**

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor McEvoy, it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on the next matters 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.

Read: Report dated 21 December 2020 from Ms J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement regarding the short term hire of Unit B and part of Unit C, located at Saintfield Community Centre. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor McEvoy, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor Walker, it was agreed to note request from Flanagan Flooring Distributors for a short-term hire agreement until completion of the public Expression of Interest (Eoi) exercise for the vacant units located at Saintfield Community Centre.

The Chairperson wished everyone a happy Christmas and a healthy and safe new year.

There being no further business the meeting ended at 7.20pm.

For consideration at the Council Meeting to be held on Monday 04 January 2021.

Signed: **Councillor L McEvoy**
Chairperson

Signed: **Janine Hillen**
Assistant Director Community Engagement

NEWRY MOURNE AND DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of Special Audit Committee Meeting held on Monday 07 December 2020 at 2.00pm via Microsoft Teams.

Chairperson: Ms B Slevin Independent Chairperson

In attendance: **(Committee Members)**

Councillor P Byrne
Councillor C Casey
Councillor L Devlin
Councillor O Hanlon
Councillor A Lewis
Councillor D Murphy
Councillor G Sharvin

(Non Committee Members)

Councillor A Finnegan

Officials in attendance: Ms M Ward, Chief Executive
Ms D Carville, Director of Corporate Services
Mr M Lipsett, Director of Active & Healthy Communities
Mr C Mallon, Director of Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism
Ms K Bingham, Head of Performance & Improvement
Mr K Montgomery Assistant Director of Corporate Services (Finance)
Ms B Phillips Finance Manager
Ms S Taggart, Democratic Services Manager
Ms L Dillon, Democratic Services Officer

Also in attendance: Ms C Hagan, ASM
Mr B O'Neill, NIAO
Ms D McKim, NIAO

AC/075/2020: APOLOGIES AND CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

The following apology was received:

Councillor M Gibbons
Councillor C Enright

AC/076/2020: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest received.

EXEMPT INFORMATION ITEMS

Items restricted in accordance with Part 3 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Casey, seconded by Councillor Sharvin, it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on this matter which related to exempt information by virtue of Part 3 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 – Information relating to the financial or business affairs of a particular person (including the Council holding that information) and the public may, by resolution, be excluded during these items of business.

AC/077/2020: STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2019-2020 (FOR YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020)

Read: Newry Mourne and Down District Council Statement of Accounts for year ended 31 March 2020.
(Copy circulated)

AC/078/2202: NIAO (DRAFT) REPORT TO THOSE CHARGED WITH GOVERNANCE

Read: NIAO Draft Report to Those Charged With Governance (RTTCWG). (Copy circulated)

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Sharvin seconded by Councillor Devlin it was agreed to come out of closed session.

When the Committee came out of closed session the Chairperson reported the following decisions were taken:

AC/077/2020: Statement of Accounts 2019-2020 (For Year Ended 31 March 2020)

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Casey seconded by Councillor Byrne it was agreed to note the status of the audit of the Statement of Accounts 2019-20 and approve the

audited accounts, including the Annual Governance Statement, for signing by the Chairperson of Council and Chief Executive.

AC/078/2020: **NIAO Draft Report to Those Charged With Governance**

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Casey seconded by Councillor Byrne it was agreed to note the contents of the NIAO (Draft) Report to those Charged with Governance 2019-2020 and accept management's rationale for not adjusting the misstatement identified in the report.

Noted: Councillor Byrne asked to record his thanks to senior management and Ms D Carville Director of Corporate Services for the work done during the Covid 19 pandemic and for keeping information supplied to Councillors throughout this period.

There being no further business the meeting concluded at 2.40pm.

For consideration at the Council Meeting to be held on Monday 04 January 2021.

Signed: **Ms D Carville**
Director Corporate Services

Signed: **Ms B Slevin**
Independent Chairperson



Minutes of the 474th Meeting
of the Northern Ireland Housing Council
The Housing Centre, Belfast (Boardroom / Webex)
Thursday, 12th November 2020 at 10.30 am

The Officers joined the Meeting at 11.30 am.

Present in Boardroom:

| | |
|---------------|--|
| Tommy Nicholl | Mid & East Antrim Borough (Chair) |
| Mark Cooper | Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough |
| Jim Speers | Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon Borough |
| Mickey Ruane | Newry, Mourne & Down District |

Present by Video Conferencing:

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Nick Mathison | Ards & North Down Borough |
| Allan Bresland | Derry City & Strabane District |
| Anne-Marie Fitzgerald | Fermanagh & Omagh District (Vice Chair) |
| Amanda Grehan | Lisburn & Castlereagh City |

In Attendance:

| | |
|---------------|---|
| Clark Bailie | Chief Executive (NIHE) |
| Paul Price | Director of Social Housing Policy & Oversight (DfC) |
| David Polley | Director of Housing Strategy & Co-ordination (DfC) |
| Kelly Cameron | Secretary (Housing Executive Secretariat) |

Apologies:

| | |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|
| Michelle Kelly | Belfast City |
| John Finlay | Causeway Coast & Glens Borough |
| Catherine Elattar | Mid Ulster Borough |

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| 1.0 | <p><u>Declarations of Interest</u></p> <p>None.</p> | |
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474th Meeting of the Northern Ireland Housing Council

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| 2.0 | <p><u>To adopt the Minutes of the 473rd Housing Council Meeting held on Thursday 8th October 2020</u></p> <p>It was proposed by Alderman Speers, seconded by Councillor Ruane and resolved, that the Minutes of the 473rd Meeting of the Housing Council held on Thursday 8th October 2020 be approved and signed by the Chair.</p> | |
| 3.0 | <p><u>Matters Arising from the Minutes</u></p> <p>3.1</p> <p><u>Meetings Structure</u></p> <p>The Secretary updated the Officers from the Department for Communities and the Housing Executive on the new proposed arrangements for the Meetings going forward, as agreed at the 'Private Session' held earlier.</p> <p><u>AGREED: that -</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the Housing Executive's Chief Executive and the Officials from the Department for Communities should attend meetings separately, on alternate months, allowing more time for their respective question/answer (Q&A) sessions; • the new proposals to be implemented in the New Year. <p>3.2</p> <p><u>Page 61 Item 6 – Building Regulations Re Lifetime Homes Standards</u></p> <p>It was noted that the Secretary, on behalf of the Chair, had written to the Department for Finance seeking clarification on the potential for Building Regulation on Lifetime Homes Standards to be extended to the Private Sector. A reply is awaited.</p> <p>3.3</p> <p><u>Queries from Members responded to since the last meeting, in relation to policy issues included:-</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alderman Speers - interventions available for DFG applicants where the contractor's performance/standard of work is sub-standard. | |

474th Meeting of the Northern Ireland Housing Council

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| 4.0 | <p><u>Housing Executive's Board Bulletin Board Meeting – Wednesday, 28th October 2020</u></p> <p>Mr Bailie reported on the Housing Executive Board's deliberations as follows:-</p> <p>Finance Report</p> <p>The Board had requested an additional supplementary report reflecting the allocated reserves and associated programme.</p> <p>Corporate Performance Monitor at the half year (September 2020)</p> <p>The Board noted the performance at the half year period against the draft one year business plan for all Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for Regional, Landlord and Support Services. The report reflected the impact of COVID-19 on programme delivery, which, unfortunately, had impacted on some targets and had required some of the maintenance contracts to be reset..</p> <p>Rent Increase Proposals 2021-22</p> <p>The Board considered a number of options in relation to next year's rent increase and agreed a proposal to be submitted to the Minister.</p> <p>DLO Evolve Business Case Approval</p> <p>The Board approved the Business Case for the DLO Evolve programme which aimed to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of DLO's maintenance service. The programme will be delivered through five workstreams - Workforce Planning, Commercial/ Financial, Business process Review, Accommodation/ Stores and Communication/ Engagement.</p> <p>2020-2021 Programme Update</p> <p>The Board approved the revised Programme deemed deliverable in the remainder of the 2020/21 financial year, following the COVID-19 lockdown and resumption of all works. It was noted that the delivery of the updated 2020/21 Programme, particularly the internal works, is heavily dependent upon lockdown restrictions not being reintroduced.</p> | |
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474th Meeting of the Northern Ireland Housing Council

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| | <p>Sprinkler Systems Installation Programme for the NIHE High Rise Tower Blocks</p> <p>Approval was given by the Board for the installation of sprinklers in 31 tower blocks using the Fusion 21 Framework procurement to deliver the programme.</p> <p>In response to Mr Mathison's query on the fire safety of the cladding in Housing Executive Tower Blocks, Mr Bailie provided an explanation on the testing process previously applied to cladding in line with Building Regulations, and added that the future introduction of any new standards would require compliance. He added that fire safety is taken very seriously within the Housing Executive and officers were also engaging with the University of Ulster Fire Research Laboratory in relation to further testing</p> <p><u>AGREED:</u> to arrange a presentation on Tower Blocks, in particular, focusing on the issue of fire safety in the cladding.</p> <p>CTE01 - No Fines EWI and Associated Works</p> <p>The Board approved award of the second tranche of No Fines External Wall Insulation and Associated Works Contracts under the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) programme.</p> <p>Community Cohesion Update for 2019-2020</p> <p>The Board noted the annual update on the Community Cohesion Strategy across its five themes and approved an extension of the existing Strategy until 31 March 2022, pending direction from the Northern Ireland Executive on the future Programme For Government framework, and to analyse the outcome of an external evaluation on the effectiveness of the current Strategy over the last 5 years.</p> <p>Leasehold - Lease Extension Proposal</p> <p>The Board approved the implementation of a new policy enabling leaseholders to extend their leases at market value, subject to full recovery by the Housing Executive of its associated transaction costs.</p> | |
|--|--|--|

474th Meeting of the Northern Ireland Housing Council**The Way Home – Homelessness Response to COVID-19**

It was noted that the Housing Executive had adopted a co-ordinated response to address the impacts of COVID-19 in terms of homelessness in Northern Ireland. Actions taken since early March 2020 aimed to safeguard as many homeless people as possible and ensure the continued operation of homelessness services in an effective and safe way.

To capture, key responses and progress to date as well as set out the framework to ensure we protect this progress made is protected going forward, a reset plan '*The Way Home – Homelessness Response to COVID-19*' has been developed.

The plan will form the basis of the Housing Executive's funding submission to the Department for Communities for continued funding beyond the current financial year. The priorities and measures outlined in the reset plan were shared at a high level with the Minister for Communities recently. The Minister was fully supportive of the existing and ongoing need for the measures outlined in the document.

The Board approved the Plan.

Queens Quarter Housing Funding

The Board approved an increase in Supporting People funding rate for Queens Quarter Housing from 1st November 2020. Queens Quarter Housing provides support services for vulnerable clients with complex support needs.

Supporting People Strategy 2021-2024

The Board received a presentation on the three year Supporting People Strategy 2021-2024 and approved the Strategy for onward submission to the Department and for public consultation in December 2020.

Other information papers noted by the Board included:-

Homelessness Strategy 2017-22 Year 4 (Q1) Update

SP Programme Monthly Progress Update

Land Acquisitions and Disposals Update

474th Meeting of the Northern Ireland Housing Council

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| | <p>Annual Compliance Health & Safety Annual Report</p> <p>Plans for 50th Anniversary Celebrations during 2021</p> <p>Other issues during discussion included:</p> <p>Change of Tenancy</p> <p>Mr Cooper reiterated his concern associated with timescales for change of tenancies associated with response contracts. New tenants were being advised that it could possibly be 6 to 8 weeks before receiving their keys, and he enquired if set dates could be determined.</p> <p>Maintenance of Smoke Alarms</p> <p>Mr Bailie undertook to respond to Mr Cooper in relation to the length of time to repair a Smoke Alarm for a hearing impaired tenant (three days requiring a specialist contractor, as opposed to two hours when a smoke alarm is reported faulty as an emergency response).</p> <p>Affordable Warmth Scheme</p> <p>Mr Bailie reported briefly on difficulties being experienced with the Affordable Warmth scheme and undertook to provide Mrs Grehan with a list of referral issues arising from Councils.</p> <p>Military Barracks site in Omagh</p> <p>In response to Ms Fitzgerald, Mr Bailie undertook to check the possibility of the Omagh military barracks site being utilised for social housing.</p> <p>Available Land Sites for Social Housing</p> <p>Responding further to Ms Fitzgerald, Mr Bailie confirmed he would welcome the identification of any further lands/sites with potential for social housing and, in particular, in areas where there is housing need.</p> | |
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| | <p>Latharna Tower Block, Larne</p> <p>The Chair asked for clarification on the timescale for demolishing the Latharna Tower Block and also the intention for the site when demolished.</p> <p>Mr Bailie confirmed at present there is no decision on the future use of the site.</p> | |
| 5.0 | <p><u>Housing Issues, Department for Communities</u></p> <p>Mr Price referred to the Minister for Communities Carál Ní Chuilín recent announcement about the future of social housing in Northern Ireland on 3rd November 2020. He reported that the Minister had given a clear direction of travel in the terms of the future of the landlord and regional sides of the Housing Executive. The landlord side will be reclassified so that it may borrow, invest in its homes and ultimately build again. The regional side will remain as a public authority and will continue to focus on delivering strategic housing services and programmes.</p> <p>Members noted other keys areas, which the Minister undertook to address, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Comprehensive rental review of the Housing Executive rents; b. Consultation on the Housing Executive's House Sales Scheme; c. Consultation on the Fundamental Review of Social Housing Allocations Policy - Proceed with 18 of the 20 proposals for change; d. Reintroduction ring-fencing of the new build Social Housing Development Programme (SHDP) to prioritise certain areas of highest housing need; e. Private rented sector – to introduce legislation to the Assembly to improve the safety, security and quality of the Private Rented sector. Key areas of reform include extending the notice to quit period, ensuring rent is fair and considering an enhanced role for councils in registration and enforcement. <p>Members also noted updates in the circulated report under the following headings:-</p> | |

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| | <p><u>AGREED:</u> following the publication of the Fundamental Review of Social Housing Allocations Policy, the Department for Communities will give a presentation at a future Meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reclassification of Northern Ireland Social Housing Providers • Supporting People Delivery Strategy • Homelessness Strategy • Regulation of the Private Rented Sector <p><u>AGREED:</u></p> <p>(a) the Department to give an overview of the Private Rented Sector to discuss the proposals to be introduced in this mandate and those with longer term changes;</p> <p>(b) Mr Polley undertook to provide Mr Mathison with a link on the Reform of the Private Rented Sector.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing Housing Supply • Affordable Warmth Scheme – A detailed discussion took place on this issue <p><u>AGREED:</u> Mr Polley to send a letter to the 11 Councils informing them of the proposed changes in raising the income threshold within the Affordable Warmth schemes, which could result in several applicants now being eligible to avail of the scheme, expected to be implemented in the New Year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Programme for Government (PfG) Outcomes Framework • Options to remove historical debt from the NIHE and exclude it from having to pay Corporation Tax • Long term rent trajectory • Affordability of social rents • Review of the Design Guide for Travellers' Sites in Northern Ireland <p>It was noted that this item is now completed and will be removed from the monthly update.</p> | |
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| | <u>AGREED:</u> following the Ministerial announcement, the Department for Communities to give a presentation at a future Meeting on revitalisation of the Northern Ireland Housing Executive. | |
| 6.0 | Social Housing Development Programme Housing Starts and Completions – October 2020 The report was noted. | |
| 7.0 | Housing Starts October 2020 The report was noted. | |
| 8.0 | <u>Date and Venue of Next Meeting – Thursday 10th December 2020 at 10.30 am</u> It was agreed that the monthly meetings would be held in the Boardroom, the Housing Centre, for the foreseeable future. Members would liaise with the Secretary on preference(s) to attend in person or participate remotely, depending on personal circumstances and attendance numbers. | |

The Meeting concluded at 12.35 pm.



DECEMBER HOUSING COUNCIL BULLETIN

The Northern Ireland Housing Council met on Thursday, 10th December 2020 at 10.30 am in the Housing Centre, Belfast or via Conference Call.

For Information, a report of the attendance is undernoted:-

Present at Meeting:

| | |
|---------------|-----------------------------------|
| Tommy Nicholl | Mid & East Antrim Borough (Chair) |
| Mark Cooper | Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough |
| Mickey Ruane | Newry, Mourne & Down District |

Present by Video Conferencing

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| Nick Mathison | Ards & North Down Borough |
| Jim Speers | Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon Borough |
| Michelle Kelly | Belfast City |
| Anne-Marie Fitzgerald | Fermanagh & Omagh District (Vice Chair) |
| Allan Bresland | Derry City & Strabane District |
| Amanda Grehan | Lisburn & Castlereagh City |

Members Apologies

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| John Finlay | Causeway Coast & Glens Borough |
| Catherine Elattar | Mid Ulster Borough Council |

Discussions on the undernoted matters took place as follows:-

The Housing Executive's Chief Executive, Clark Bailie gave a verbal update on **Housing Executive's Business from the November Board Meeting**, which included the following items:-

- **330A-F Lisnafin Park, Strabane – Refurbishment, Assisted Living pilot and a Local Lettings Policy**
- **CTO83 – Electrical Testing & Inspections Services 2020**
- **HR Policy Revisions**
- **Social Housing Development Programme (SHDP) 2020/21 Delivery Update and Approval of the Draft 3-Year SHDP 2021/22 – 2023/24 and accompanying SHDP Strategic Business Case**
- **Alternative Options to Supporting People Standardised Regional Payment Rates**

Other information papers noted by the Board were as follows:-

- **Performance Monitor at the end of October 2020**
- **Supporting People Programme Update**
- **Tower Blocks Action Plan – Proposed Private Sector Disposals; Soft Market Test Exercise**
- **2nd Annual Safeguarding Report**

The Board had received a presentation on **Supporting People Programme Scoping**

Members then received an update from Paul Price and David Polley Department for Communities, on the **Departments' Housing Top Issues** to date, which included:-

- Social Newbuild starts
- Co-ownership
- Programme for Social Reform
- Fundamental Review of Social Housing Allocations Policy
- Reclassification of Northern Ireland Social Housing Providers
- Supporting People Delivery Strategy
- Homelessness Strategy
- Regulation of the Private Rented Sector
- Increasing Housing Supply
- Affordable Warmth Scheme
- NIHE Rent Increase
- ERDF Investment for Growth and Jobs Programme 2014 -2020
- Programme for Government (PfG) Outcomes Framework
- Options to remove historical debt from the NIHE and exclude it from having to pay Corporation Tax
- Long term rent trajectory
- Affordability of social rents

Members received the following presentations:-

Revitalisation of the Housing Executive

Following the announcement by the Minister of Communities Carál Ní Chuilín about the future of social housing in Northern Ireland, Members received a presentation by Heloise Brown, Department for Communities on the Revitalisation of the Housing Executive.

Update on the Disability Facilities Grants (DfG)

An update was received by Danny O'Reilly on the Housing Executive's Disability Facilities Grants.

Once the minutes of the meeting are ratified at the January Meeting, they can be accessed on the Housing Council website: www.nihousingcouncil.org

The next Housing Council Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, 14th January at 10.30 am in the Boardroom, the Housing Centre, Belfast or via conference call.

Should you require any further information or have any questions regarding the content.

Contacts

Chair, Alderman Tommy Nicholl MBE

Ald.nicholl@midandeantrim.gov.uk Mobile: 07970012520

Secretary, Kelly Cameron

The Housing Centre,

2 Adelaide Street

Belfast

BT2 8PB

Kelly.cameron@nihe.gov.uk Tel: 028 95982752

Northern Ireland Planning Conference

Thursday 11th February 2021
Online Conference

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Northern Ireland Planning Conference 2021

agendaNi's Northern Ireland Planning Conference is now firmly established as the major annual event for all those with an interest or role in planning and development in Northern Ireland. The 2021 conference comes at a time of great change. As of January 2020 we have a functioning Assembly in place with the New Decade, New Approach deal. A key priority of the restored Executive is 'Investing for our Future' – effective planning will be a key component to ensure Northern Ireland's economic and social potential can be realised.

With Minister for Infrastructure Nichola Mallon now in place, decisions on major projects of regional significance can be taken. Local authorities are also progressing Local Development Plans to shape local areas for the next decade and beyond.

However, no one could have guessed that the new decade would begin with the Covid-19 pandemic, affecting all areas of life across the globe and creating exceptional challenges and widespread disruption. The Department for Infrastructure introduced a number of measures to try to overcome some of the obstacles to planning and ensure no unnecessary delays. While these measures were temporary, as we move into the recovery phase of the pandemic, there may be the opportunity to rethink processes. Covid-19, while having a huge economic impact on Northern Ireland, may also give the chance to look again at town and city planning – the long term changes to our work and travel patterns may not be known for some time.

The conference will provide an opportunity for all those with a role or interest in planning locally to come together for discussion and debate. An expert speaker panel comprising local and visiting speakers will look at these issues in detail. Attendees will come from across all sectors and will include government policymakers and decision-takers, other government agencies and NDPBs, local government officials, planners, developers, waste companies, advisory organisations, community representative groups and political representatives. The conference aims to be as interactive as possible with delegates able to put questions directly to the expert panel.

2021 discussion topics

- ✓ Update on planning policy
- ✓ Local Development Plans to shape the next decade
- ✓ Covid-19 as an opportunity to rethink town and city planning
- ✓ Planning for major projects in infrastructure and housing
- ✓ Shaping places with transformative digital planning
- ✓ Community engagement in planning projects
- ✓ Putting climate at the heart of planning and development
- ✓ Planning Engagement Partnership to strengthen public participation
- ✓ The future of town centres post Covid-19
- ✓ A collaborative approach to placemaking
- ✓ Best practice case studies



Sponsorship opportunities

There are a limited number of available sponsorship opportunities at this conference which will be of interest to companies and organisations with products or services they wish to promote. For further information on sponsorship and speaking opportunities and how your organisation can benefit, contact **Lynda Millar** on **028 9261 9933** or email Lynda.Millar@agendani.com.

0900 Chairman's welcome and introduction: Owen McQuade, Managing Editor, agendaNi

Planning for recovery and growth in Northern Ireland

Angus Kerr, Chief Planner and Director of Regional Planning, [Department for Infrastructure](#)

Planning case law update

Presented by Carson McDowell

Local Development Plan to shape the next decade and beyond

Paul Duffy, Head of Planning, [Mid and East Antrim Borough Council](#)

Building Ireland's future: Planning for major projects in infrastructure and housing

Dave Walsh, Chairperson, [An Bord Pleanála](#)

Questions & answers / Panel discussion

1045 Comfort break

1115 Placemaking and community

Community engagement in planning projects

Petra Biberbach, Chief Executive, [Planning Aid Scotland](#)

The future of town centres post-pandemic

Helen Quigley, CEO, [Inner City Trust](#)

The Planning Engagement Partnership to strengthen public participation in the planning process

Dr Louise O'Kane, Planner and Engagement Officer, [Community Places](#)

A collaborative approach to placemaking

Professor Brian Evans, City Urbanist, [Glasgow City Council](#)

Questions & answers / Panel discussion

1300 Comfort break

1400 Planning for the future

Covid-19 as an opportunity to rethink town and city planning

Professor Geraint Ellis, School of Natural and Built Environment, [Queen's University Belfast](#)

Climate Action Plan: Putting climate at the heart of planning and development

James Orr, Director, [Friends of the Earth Northern Ireland](#)

Shaping places with transformative digital planning

Stefan Webb, Place Director, [FutureGov](#)

The future of planning in Northern Ireland

William Orbinson QC (*invited*)

1545 Chairman's summary and conference close

Who should attend?

You can unsubscribe from receiving information at any time, please let us know by emailing info@agendani.com or phoning 028 9261 9933.