

NEWRY, MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

NMD/C/

Minutes of Council Meeting held on Monday 1 April 2019 at 6.00pm in the Mourne Room, Downshire Civic Centre, Downpatrick

In the Chair: Councillor M Murnin

In attendance:

Councillor T Andrews	Councillor N Bailie
Councillor P Brown	Councillor P Byrne
Councillor R Burgess	Councillor C Casey
Councillor M Carr	Councillor G Craig
Councillor W Clarke	Councillor C Enright
Councillor D Curran	Councillor G Hanna
Councillor S Doran	Councillor H Harvey
Councillor G Fitzpatrick	Councillor R Howell
Councillor V Harte	Councillor M Larkin
Councillor T Hearty	Councillor L Kimmins
Councillor J Macauley	Councillor D Hyland
Councillor O McMahon	Councillor K Loughran
Councillor B Ó Muirí	Councillor D McAteer
Councillor H Reilly	Councillor A McMurray
Councillor M Ruane	Councillor R Mulgrew
Councillor B Quinn	Councillor J Rice
Councillor M Savage	Councillor G Stokes
Councillor D Taylor	Councillor J Trainor
Councillor B Walker	

(Officials)

Mr L Hannaway, Chief Executive
Mrs D Carville, Director of Corporate Services
Mr M Lipsett, Director of Active & Healthy Communities
Ms M Ward, Director of Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism
Mr R Moore, Director of Neighbourhood Services
Ms C Miskelly, Asst. Director of Human Resources
Miss S Taggart, Democratic Services Manager (Acting)
Ms L O'Hare, Democratic Services Officer
Mrs P McKeever, Democratic Services Officer

C/054/2019

APOLOGIES AND CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

Apologies were received from Councillors Devlin and Tinnelly.

C/055/2019

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Mr Hannaway referred to Item 16 on the Agenda – Appointment of Chief Executive and said all staff would be required to leave during discussion on this Item.

- The Chairperson extended condolences to the families of Martin Patterson, Shane McAnallen and temporary staff member Ruth Maguire who had tragically lost their lives over St. Patrick's weekend.
- The Chairperson extended condolences to Councillor Hearty on the recent passing of his father.
- The Chairperson referred to the very successful St Patrick's weekend events and commended all staff involved.
- The Chairperson extended congratulations to St Colman's Grammar School, Newry on winning the Paul McGirr Cup, St Patrick's Grammar School, Downpatrick on winning the MacLarnon Cup, recipients of the YAFTA awards and all those who had been recognised at the recent civic awards ceremony in Downpatrick.
- The Chairperson advised a thank you letter had been received from Nottingham Council in appreciation for Newry Mourne and Down Council's presence at their thirtieth St. Patrick's Day celebrations; Councillor Andrews had represented the Council.

Councillor Reilly acknowledged Annalong's recent football success in securing the Beckett Cup and asked that Council send a letter in recognition of this achievement.

C/056/2019

ACTION SHEET ARISING FROM COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 4 MARCH 2019

Read: Action sheet arising from Council Meeting held on 4 March 2019 (copy circulated)

Agreed: The Action Sheet from Council Meeting held on 4 March 2019 was agreed.

COUNCIL MINUTES FOR ADOPTION AND SIGNING

C/057/2019

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 4 MARCH 2019

Read: Minutes of Council Meeting held on 4 March 2019 (copy circulated).

Agreed: The Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 4 March 2019 were agreed as an accurate record and adopted on the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor Burgess.

C/058/2019

MINUTES OF SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 6 MARCH 2019

Read: Minutes of Special Council Meeting held on 6 March 2019 (copy

circulated).

Agreed: **The Minutes of the Special Council Meeting held on 6 March 2019 were agreed as an accurate record and adopted on the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor Burgess.**

COMMITTEE MINUTES FOR CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION

C/059/2019 MINUTES OF ENTERPRISE, REGENERATION AND TOURISM COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 11 MARCH 2019

Read: Minutes of Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism Meeting held on 11 March 2019 (copy circulated).

ERT/044/2019 - Service Level Agreements Artisan Markets (Downpatrick and Newcastle)

Councillor McAteer asked for an update regarding a date for Warrenpoint Market as part of the ongoing Revitalisation Project for Warrenpoint.

Mrs Ward advised she would look into this and revert back to the Councillor.

ERT/047/2019 - Belfast Region City Deal

Councillor Byrne asked for clarity on the wording of the match funding figure of £350K based on projects going forward and stated it was important that the wording would not be interpreted as watering down the commitment from the UK Treasury.

In response, Mr Hannaway said that £350M from the Treasury had been confirmed and £350K from Stormont Departments. He said it was a package deal and would be reliant on all aspects being tied together and any variation would impact the overall deal. Mr Hannaway stated the Secretary of State had signed off on the deal and there would be a review by Ministers when the Executive came back into power. However, given that the package was an agreement between Treasury, Councils, Universities and the N.Ireland Council, any variation could impact the receipt of the additional funding from Treasury.

ERT/054/2019 - Kilbroney Trails Project

Councillor Burgess asked for an update on the Geopark Consultation.

Mrs Ward replied she would arrange for a schedule of all the various consultation events relating to Geopark to be circulated to Members.

Agreed: **The Minutes of the Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism Meeting held on 11 March 2019 were agreed as an accurate record and adopted, on the proposal of Councillor McMahan, seconded by Councillor Curran.**

Update regarding a date for Artisan Market in Warrenpoint to be forwarded to Councillor McAteer.

**Schedule of various consultation events relating to
Geopark to be circulated to Members.**

C/060/2019 **MINUTES OF STRATEGY, POLICY AND RESOURCES
COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 14 March 2019**

Read: Minutes of Strategy, Policy and Resource Meeting held on 14 March 2019 (copy circulated).

SPR/055/2019 – Request from Department for Communities for repayment of grant funding in respect of the big screen in Newry

Councillor Byrne referred to the proposal he had made at the SPR Meeting on 14 March 2019 saying he had expressed concerns about the Department for Communities oversight in relation to this issue and he asked that an additional point be added to his proposal to include writing to the Local Government Audit Office to request that they look into the role of the Department for Communities during this process and the oversight mechanisms they had in place. This was seconded by Councillor Mulgrew.

SPR/054/2019 – Gerry Brown Park

Councillor Savage stated the residents in the Fathom area would like more engagement via the DEA with Department for Infrastructure.

SPR/052/2019 – Civic Centre Regeneration (CCR) Theatre / Conference Project

Councillor Savage referred to the new theatre conference centre and said local drama and arts groups were keen to be involved and had asked if they could take part in the consultation process.

Agreed: **The Minutes of the Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee Meeting held on 14 March 2019 were agreed and adopted on the proposal of Councillor Savage, seconded by Councillor Curran.**

On the proposal of Councillor Byrne, seconded by Councillor Mulgrew, it was agreed that Council write to the Local Government Audit Office to request that they look into the role of the Department for Communities in respect of the funding granted for the Big Screen in Newry and the oversight mechanisms they had in place during the process.

C/061/2019 **MINUTES OF REGULATORY & TECHNICAL SERVICES
COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 20 MARCH 2019**

Read: Minutes of Regulatory & Technical Services Committee Meeting held on 20 March 2019 (copy circulated).

RTS/052/2019 – Planning Committee Performance Report – February 2019

Discussion took place among Members and the following issues were raised:

C/064/2019

STRANGFORD LOUGH FERRY SERVICE

Read: Correspondence dated 6 March 2019 received from Department for Communities regarding Strangford Lough Ferry Service (copy circulated)

Agreed: The correspondence received from the Department for Communities was noted.

C/065/2019

FIXED ODDS BETTING TERMINALS

Read: Correspondence dated 15 March 2019 received from Department for Communities regarding Fixed Odds Betting Terminals. (copy circulated)

Read: Correspondence dated 20 March received from Department of Health regarding Fixed Odds Betting Terminals. (copy circulated)

Councillor Byrne said there were two conflicting opinions in the correspondence received from Department for Communities and that received from the Department of Health. He said gambling was clearly a huge problem and it was important to get, via the Health Working Groups, clear evidence from both Departments as to what collaboration was in place. Councillor Clarke concurred with Councillor Byrne's comments.

Agreed: It was agreed to request evidence of the collaboration between the Department for Communities and Department of Health with regard to Fixed Odds Betting Terminals via the Council's Health Working Groups.

NOTICES OF MOTION

C/066/2019: NOTICE OF MOTION – DONARD DEMESNE, NEWCASTLE

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

"Newry, Mourne and Down Council enters into discussions with the Annesley Estate proposing that council leases the woodland known as Donard Demesne, Newcastle, in order that this woodland area can be properly maintained and made an attractive area to complement the amenities already existing in Donard Park, with the view to improving the recreational, health and well-being and tourism potential, this area is an important habitat that requires adequate management."

The motion was seconded by Councillor Doran and referred, in accordance with Standing Order 16.1.6 to the Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism Committee Meeting.

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

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor McMahon, seconded by Councillor Ruane, 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 a particular person (including the Council holding that information) and the public may, by resolution, be excluded during this item of business.

C/067/2019: APPOINTMENT OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Read: Report by Staff Commission and Assistant Director of Corporate Services (HR and Safeguarding)

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor O’Muíri, seconded by Councillor Stokes it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.

Ms Taggart advised that while the Committee was in closed session the following was agreed:

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Stokes, seconded by Councillor Ruane it was agreed to delegate authority to the Party Reps Committee to progress the recruitment of a new Chief Executive in a timely manner.

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

Signed:

Chairman

Chief Executive