

NEWRY, MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

NMD/C/

Minutes of Council Meeting held on Monday 7 October 2019 at 6.00pm in the Mourne Room, Downshire Civic Centre, Downpatrick

In the Chair: Councillor C Casey

In attendance:

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| Councillor P Brown | Councillor R Burgess |
| Councillor P Byrne | Councillor W Clarke |
| Councillor D Curran | Councillor L Devlin |
| Councillor S Doran | Councillor C Enright |
| Councillor H Gallagher | Councillor M Gibbons |
| Councillor O Hanlon | Councillor G Hanna |
| Councillor V Harte | Councillor T Hearty |
| Councillor R Howell | Councillor L Kimmins |
| Councillor M Larkin | 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 G O'Hare | Councillor B Ó Muirí |
| Councillor H Reilly | Councillor M Ruane |
| Councillor M Savage | Councillor G Stokes |
| Councillor D Taylor | Councillor J Trainor |
| Councillor B Walker | |

(Officials)

Mr L Hannaway, Chief Executive
Mrs M Ward, Director of Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism
Mr R Moore, Director of Neighbourhood Services
Mr M Lipsett, Director of Active & Healthy Communities
Mr C Mallon, Director of Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism (Acting)
Miss S Taggart, Democratic Services Manager (Acting)
Mrs D Starkey, Democratic Services Officer
Ms L O'Hare, Democratic Services Officer

C/135/2019

APOLOGIES AND CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

Apologies were received from Councillors Andrews, Lewis, Sharvin and Tinnelly.

The Chief Executive referred to Standing Orders Section 8: Admission to meetings.

The Chairperson extended condolences to the family, friends and colleagues on the sudden passing of Niall Lavery who worked as a member of leisure services and to his sister Collen Morrison who works as Sports Development Officer for Council.

The Chairperson sent best wishes to Councillor Gareth Sharvin who was unwell at this time and wished him a full recovery.

The Chairperson welcomed Councillor Andrew McMurray back to the Council.

The Chairperson acknowledged that this was the last Council Meeting for the Chief Executive, Mr Liam Hannaway, and took the opportunity to thank him for his leadership and direction in the establishment and amalgamation of Newry and District Council and Down District Council since 2014. Highlighting that Liam had brought a wealth of experience and knowledge along with a deep commitment to the betterment of the District through the success of the following projects:

- Completion of Newry leisure centre and the development of Down leisure centre.
- Overseeing a range of new playparks and upgrades to playparks throughout the district.
- The establishment of the Community Plan Partnership and the securing of the District within the Belfast City Deal.

The Chairperson thanked him for the commitment and dedication he had shown to Council and wished him a long and happy retirement.

The Chief Executive thanked the Chairperson for his kind words and paid respect to all the politicians he had worked with and offered thanks to the staff of Banbridge Council and Newry Mourne and Down District Council with whom he had worked for their professionalism and support over the years

Parties, in turn, paid tribute to Liam and wished him a long and happy retirement and also welcomed Mrs Marie Ward as the new Chief Executive.

C/136/2019 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest.

C/137/2019 ACTION SHEET ARISING FROM COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 2 SEPTEMBER 2019

Read: Action sheet arising from Council Meeting held on 2 September 2019 (copy circulated).

C/124/2019: Minutes of AHC Committee Meeting 19 August 2019 (AHC/126/2019)

At the request of Councillor Hanna, Mr Lipsett to provide an update on the investigation of possible installation of larger hoist in Kilkeel Swimming Pool.

Agreed: The Action Sheet from Council Meeting held on 2 September 2019 was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Hanna, seconded by Councillor Savage.

COUNCIL MINUTES FOR ADOPTION AND SIGNING

C/138/2019 MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 2 SEPTEMBER 2019

Read: Minutes of Council Meeting held on 2 September 2019 (copy circulated).

Call in - C122/2019: Council agree to the transfer of the seats from Kilkeel Town Hall to the Newcastle Community Cinema

The Chief Executive referred to Standing Orders 21.4 (3):

If a call-in is made in accordance with Standing Order 21.2 paragraph (3) and section 41 (1) (a) of the 2014 Act, the Clerk must place the call-in on the agenda for the next Meeting of the Council

The Chief Executive declared that, in this instance the decision agreed by the Council on 2 September 2019 was null and void as the group no longer wished to acquire the seats.

Agreed: The Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 2 September 2019 were agreed as an accurate record and adopted on the proposal of Councillor Stokes, seconded by Councillor Burgess.

C/139/2019 MINUTES OF SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 27 AUGUST 2019

Read: Minutes of Special Council Meeting held on 27 August 2019 (copy circulated).

Agreed: The Minutes of the Special Council Meeting held on 27 August 2019 were agreed as an accurate record and adopted on the proposal of Councillor Hearty, seconded by Councillor Gallagher.

COMMITTEE MINUTES FOR CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION

C/140/2019 MINUTES OF ENTERPRISE, REGENERATION AND TOURISM COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 9 SEPTEMBER 2019

Read: Minutes of Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism Committee Meeting held on 9 September 2019 (copy circulated).

Agreed: The Minutes of the Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism Committee Meeting held on 9 September 2019 were agreed as an accurate record and adopted, on the proposal of Councillor Brown, seconded by Councillor

Curran.

C/141/2019

**MINUTES OF STRATEGY, POLICY AND RESOURCES
COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 12 SEPTEMBER 2019**

Read: Minutes of Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee Meeting held on 12 September 2019 (copy circulated).

SPR/127/2019: Review of AONB Structure

Councillor Enright advised that the Strangford and Lecale Partnership Management Advisory Board had written to Council in relation to the AONB structure and asked that Council meet with them before the finalisation of the structure.

The Chief Executive advised this had been noted.

SPR/114/2019: Notice of Motion – Initiatives re: recording Committee and Council Meetings

Councillor Brown proposed the decision be overturned and that officers investigate the full costing for video recording at Council and audio recording of working groups and forums etc. He also proposed a limit of three motions per Councillor per month rather than the far too restrictive one that was currently proposed.

This was seconded by Councillor McMurray.

During discussion, Councillors Byrne and Clarke spoke in support of the officer's recommendations and highlighted the financial cost to ratepayers to introduce video recording facilities and that meetings of Council were already open and transparent with audio recording.

Councillor Brown requested the matter be put to a recorded vote, the results of which were as follows (copy of vote appended to these minutes).

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|--------------|----|
| For: | 3 |
| Against: | 31 |
| Abstentions: | 2 |

The proposal was declared 'lost'.

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

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Kimmins, seconded by Councillor Howell, 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. 5 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government (Northern Ireland) 2014 – Information in

relation to which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings.

SPR/128/2019: D1 Process – Raymond McCreesh Park

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Kimmins, seconded by Councillor Stokes, it was agreed Council come out of closed session.

The Chief Executive advised that whilst in committee Members received an update regarding the D1 process of Raymond McCreesh Park and an update on the legal judicial review that Council is involved in.

Councillor Enright was absent from the chamber during the above discussion – 6.35pm.

SPR/125/2019: Disposal of Surplus Assets, NM167 - Derryleckagh Playing Fields

Councillor McAteer expressed concern that Derryleckagh Playing Fields was to be put on the open market and asked that it be deferred to allow further discussion with Newry Rugby Club or any other interested party.

Mr Mallon explained that as more than one expression of interest had been received in relation to this asset, approval had been sought from the SP&R Committee to allow all interested parties the opportunity to bid on the open market. He informed members a further report would be presented to the Committee following this exercise.

Agreed: It was agreed by all on the proposal of Councillor McAteer, seconded by Councillor Savage that the disposal of Derryleckagh Playing Fields be deferred to allow further discussions with Newry Rugby Club and any other interested club.

SPR/125/2019: Disposal of Surplus Assets, NM123 – Kilkeel Town Hall

Councillor Reilly proposed Kilkeel Town Hall be withdrawn from the list for disposal of assets and a public consultation exercise be carried out. This was seconded by Councillor Hanna.

Mr Mallon advised Members discussions had taken place with Kilkeel Development Association and they were aware of the process and had not submitted a bid nor expression of interest.

In response to a query from Councillor Byrne, Mr Mallon confirmed that the same process for the disposal of all other assets including Kilkeel Town Hall had been followed.

AGREED: It was agreed on the proposal Councillor Byrne, seconded by Councillor Reilly to defer the Disposal of Surplus Assets, NM123 – Kilkeel Town Hall for a period of 4 weeks.

Agreed: The Minutes of the Strategy Policy and Resources Committee Meeting held on 12 September 2019 were agreed as an accurate record and adopted, on the proposal of Councillor Burgess, seconded by Councillor Byrne, with the exception of SPR/125/2019: Disposal of Surplus Assets, NM123 – Kilkeel Town Hall and NM126 – Derryleckagh Playing Fields as these disposals had been deferred for further discussions.

C/142/2019 **MINUTES OF ACTIVE AND HEALTHY COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 16 SEPTEMBER 2019**

Read: Minutes of Active and Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on 16 September 2019 (copy circulated).

Agreed: The Minutes of the Active and Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on 16 September 2019 were agreed as an accurate record and adopted, on the proposal of Councillor Ó Muirí, seconded by Councillor McKeivitt.

C/143/2019 **MINUTES OF NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 17 SEPTEMBER 2019**

Read: Minutes of Neighbourhood Services Committee Meeting held on 17 September 2019 (copy circulated).

Agreed: The Minutes of the Neighbourhood Services Committee Meeting held on 17 September 2019 were agreed as an accurate record and adopted, on the proposal of Councillor Hearty, seconded by Councillor Hanna.

C/144/2019 **EXTRACT OF PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 18 SEPTEMBER 2019**

Read: Extract of Planning Committee Meeting held on 18 September 2019 (copy circulated).

Noted: There were no issues referred from the Planning Committee Meeting held on 18 September 2019.

C/145/2019 **MINUTES OF AUDIT COMMITTEE HELD ON 24 SEPTEMBER 2019**

Read: Minutes of Audit Committee Meeting held on 24 September 2019

(copy circulated)

Agreed: The Minutes of the Audit Committee Meeting held on 24 September 2019 were agreed as an accurate record and adopted, on the proposal of Councillor Hanlon, seconded by Councillor Byrne.

Councillor Larkin left the meeting at this point – 7pm

CORRESPONDENCE AND CONFERENCES

C/146/2019 **NILGA CHANGING PLACES CONFERENCE – 8 OCTOBER 2019**

Read: Correspondence on the NILGA Changing Places Conference (copy circulated).

Agreed: It was agreed by all that Councillors Andrews, Burgess, Casey, Curran, Harte, Ruane & Walker all booked to attend the conference as NILGA Members.

C/147/2019 **CHARTERED INSTITUTE OF HOUSING NORTHERN IRELAND CONFERENCE – DELIVERING GENUINELY AFFORDABLE HOMES IN NORTHERN IRELAND**

Read: Chartered Institute of Housing NI Conference – delivering genuinely affordable homes in NI (copy circulated).

Agreed: It was agreed by all that Councillor Hanlon attend.

Any other Member wishing to attend to contact Democratic Services Department before 5pm on 8 October 2019.

C/148/2019 **NFLA ALL IRELAND SUSTAINABLE ENERGY FORUM**

Agreed: It was agreed by all that Councillor Enright attend.

C/149/2019 **NIHE GRASS CUTTING SERVICE**

Read: Correspondence dated 3 September 2019 from Housing Executive regarding the Motion on NIHE Grass Cutting Service. (copy circulated)

Agreed: The correspondence dated 3 September 2019 regarding the Motion on NIHE Grass Cutting Service was noted.

C/150/2019

ANIMAL CRUELTY

Read: Correspondence dated 4 September 2019 from DAERA regarding the Motion on Animal Cruelty. (copy circulated).

Agreed: The correspondence dated 4 September 2019 regarding the Motion on Animal Cruelty and it was agreed at the request of Councillor Byrne that the Motion relating to animal cruelty (ref: C/102/2019) remain on the action sheet awaiting a response from An Taoiseach, Mr Leo Varadkar, TD.

C/151/2019

BEE FRIENDLY FLOWER PLANTING

Read: Correspondence dated 13 September 2019 from DFI regarding Bee Friendly Flower Planting. (copy circulated).

Agreed: The correspondence dated 13 September 2019 regarding Bee Friendly Flower Planting was noted and it was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Kimmins, seconded by Councillor Clarke to invite Department for Infrastructure to the next Sustainability and Climate Change Forum Meeting to be held in November 2019 to examine Wild Flower Planting Pilot Schemes.

C/152/2019

LOCAL GOVERNMENT CIRCULAR 23/2019 – COUNCILLORS' ALLOWANCE GUIDANCE FOR DISTRICT COUNCILS IN NORTHERN IRELAND

Read: Local Government Circular dated 27 September 2019 regarding Councillors' Allowance Guidance for District Councils in NI. (copy circulated).

Agreed: The correspondence dated 27 September 2019 regarding Councillors' Allowance Guidance for District Councils in NI was noted.

C/153/2019

EQUAL PROTECTION FOR CHILDREN LEGISLATION

Read: Correspondence dated 12 September 2019 from Belfast City Council regarding Equal Protection for Children Legislation. (copy circulated).

Agreed: The correspondence dated 12 September 2019 regarding Equal Protection for Children Legislation was noted and it was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Trainor, seconded by Councillor Clarke that Council write to Assembly Party Leaders and the

Executive Office to champion the inclusion of Equal Protection for children legislation in the Programme for Government.

NOTICES OF MOTION

C/154/2019 NOTICE OF MOTION – ROLL OUT OF 5G ACROSS N.IRELAND

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

"This Council notes the concerns associated with the roll out of 5G across Northern Ireland and undertakes to carry out a comprehensive and detailed report analysing the risks and benefits of 5G roll out within the District, considering all available evidence and information in doing so. This report will then be tabled at a future meeting for Members to express their support or opposition to 5G".

Councillor McMurray seconded the Motion.

The Chairperson advised that in accordance with Standing Order 16.1.6 the motion would be referred to the Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism Committee.

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

The Chairperson agreed to take item 30 from the agenda at this stage of the meeting.

C/155/2019: AFFORDABLE CHILDCARE

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

"This Council acknowledges the Employers for Childcare 10th Annual Childcare Survey which is based on research with over 3,600 parents and childcare providers and is the most extensive study of its kind in Northern Ireland. The report reveals that the average cost of a full-time childcare place in Northern Ireland is £166 per week and that half of all families are spending more than 20% of their overall household income on childcare – a figure that rises to 63% for lone parent households.

Council further notes that three years ago, parties in the Assembly unanimously supported an SDLP proposal to provide 20 hours free universal childcare with a plan for an increase to 30 hours. This Council supports the call for vital and urgent reform of investment in our childcare sector. This research provides a robust evidence base highlighting why childcare needs to

be a key and immediate priority for any re-formed Executive. This Council resolves to write to all Political Party Leaders to ask them to support 30 hours basic free childcare provision for working parents”.

In proposing the motion, Councillor Devlin stated the issue was not with providers of childcare who had substantial overheads but with Central Government, she stated that childcare costs were a significant burden on working households that deprived working parents, and most often working women, of the opportunity of returning to their jobs.

The following points were also made:

- In 2019, people should not have to choose between a fulfilling career and caring for their child.
- By providing subsidised childcare, there was an economic multiplier effect: both parents continued working and a third worker in childcare was added to the labour force. All of which pay taxes.
- High maternal employment rates and affordable, high quality childcare not only helped families financially but also helped with the development of the child.
- The gender pay gap, which substantially decreased lifetime earnings for women, including their pension and National Insurance contributions, who take on most of the caring duties, take to raise their children.
- To ensure women were properly represented in public life and in the public and private sectors, we need to invest in childcare and ensure that women in particular do not have to make a choice between a fulfilling career.
- This was an issue of workers’ rights and creating a fairer and more just society.

In seconding the motion, Councillor Mason stated:

- Families were spending 20% of income on childcare
- Average full-time cost of childcare places was £166 per week which was structurally unsustainable and failing both parent and childcare providers.
- Sinn Fein support the Childcare for all Campaign
- Childcare strategy must be developed
- Vital and urgent reform of investment in the childcare sector.

All Parties spoke in support of the motion.

Agreed:

It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Devlin, seconded by Councillor Mason that this Council acknowledges the Employers for Childcare 10th Annual Childcare Survey which is based on research with over 3,600 parents and childcare providers and is the most extensive study of its kind in Northern Ireland. The report reveals that the average cost of a full-time childcare place in Northern Ireland is £166 per week and that half of all families are spending more than 20% of their overall household income on childcare – a figure that rises to 63% for lone parent households.

Council further notes that three years ago, parties in the Assembly unanimously supported an SDLP proposal to provide 20 hours free universal childcare with a plan for an increase to 30 hours. This Council

supports the call for vital and urgent reform of investment in our childcare sector. This research provides a robust evidence base highlighting why childcare needs to be a key and immediate priority for any re-formed Executive. This Council resolves to write to all Political Party Leaders to ask them to support 30 hours basic free childcare provision for working parents”.

Councillors Devlin, Harte and Mulgrew left the meeting at this point – 7.25pm.

C/156/2019: NOTICE OF MOTION – CLIMATE CHANGE EMERGENCY DECLARATION

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

“In October 2018 the UN announced that we have 12 years to save the planet. Scientists gave the starkest warning yet that our chances of tackling climate change and averting disaster are slipping away. They said 2030 would be too late to avoid a 2% rise in global temperatures and climate catastrophe. The UN says action by government actors would need to be taken now. Westminster is paralyzed by Brexit and Stormont is not sitting”.

In view of the UN’s Climate Change warnings for 2030, Council declares a ‘Climate Change Emergency’ and directs management to effect dramatic short-term changes in every area under its control. All council departments need to reflect this emergency with immediate and concrete steps. Every plan or target that Council produces needs to have concrete measures to reflect this emergency. Every external body or agency that Council influences or directs need to be preparing for 2030 and this will extend to the general public also through the planning and building control processes. Council should refer to Denmark, Scotland, Norway, Sweden and Germany to find best practice across all areas of sustainable development and low carbon technology for Newry, Mourne and Down Council”.

In proposing the motion, Councillor Enright made the following points:

- More than half of Councils across the UK have passed ‘climate emergency’ resolutions with many creating net zero carbon targets by as early as 2030, Council need to consider setting a similar 2030 target for the local area.
- Westminster was banning the sale of petrol and diesel cars after 2040 (2030 in the Republic and 2032 in Scotland). A plan needs put in place to preserve filling stations for future use as charging stations for tourists and visitors to the area.
- Many of the measures needed would only have minor budget implications

Councillor Enright highlighted various ways in which council could make changes that have already been developed by other councils in the UK.

Councillor Brown seconded the motion and proposed an amendment to Councillor Enright’s motion as follows:

‘That every officer’s report brought to Council for decision or noting had a section which must be completed headed ‘implications for environment and sustainability’ akin to the Council’s section on Equality and Good Relations’

Councillor Enright accepted the amendment.

Councillor Clarke proposed a further amendment as follows:

‘Council should follow best practise from across Europe to mitigate the impacts of climate change. Furthermore council shall convene a symposium to assist and develop in an action plan to mitigate the impacts of climate change.’

Councillor Enright accepted the amendment and all Parties were in agreement with the amended motion.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Enright, seconded by Councillor Brown that this Council declares a 'Climate Change Emergency' and directs management to effect dramatic short-term changes in every area under its control. All Council departments need to reflect this emergency with immediate and concrete steps. Every plan or target that Council produces needs to have concrete measures to reflect this emergency. That every officer’s report brought to council for decision or noting has a section which must be completed headed ‘implications for environment and sustainability’ akin to the Council’s section on equality and good relations. Every external body or agency that Council influences or directs need to be preparing for 2030 and this will extend to the general public also through the planning and building control processes. Council should follow best practise from across Europe to mitigate the impacts of Climate Change. Furthermore Council shall convene a symposium to assist and develop in an action plan to mitigate the impacts of Climate Change.”

C/157/2019: NOTICE OF MOTION – IMPENDING WITHDRAWAL FROM EUROPEAN UNION

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

“This Council recognises that economic future planning is crucial in the period ahead, particularly given the impending withdrawal from the European Union. This Council should plan for, and bring forward an economic plan for the future of this Council area in the event of the north of Ireland retaining membership of the European Union, following a referendum on Irish Unity. The economic plan should draw on the numerous existing reports of an all island economy, including, but not limited to; ‘Modelling Irish Unification’ by Dr Kurt Hubner, ‘The Economic Effects of an All Island Economy’, by Paul Gosling,

‘The Economic Case for Irish Unity’, by Michael Burke and the Joint Oireachtas Committee Report, ‘Brexit and the Future of Ireland – Uniting Ireland & Its People in Peace & Prosperity’. This Council should be prudent in planning for the future to maximise our potential and secure future economic growth and to compete effectively with other Cities across the Island of Ireland. The economic plan should examine how this Council would prepare for this scenario and how this Council area could position itself within this potential new constitutional arrangement, in order that Newry Mourne and Down District Council maximises all opportunities for city growth in this context.”

Councillor Clarke seconded the Motion.

The Chairperson advised that in accordance with Standing Order 16.1.6 the motion would be referred to the Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism Committee.

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

C/158/2019: NOTICE OF MOTION – BIODIVERSITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

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

“We commend this council for the work and projects it undertakes across the district to enhance biodiversity and increase environmental protection.

Rewilding spaces in the heart of our communities not only enhances and adds to the good work already undertaken to protect the environment; but also confirms our commitment as a council to challenge the climate emergency we have already recognised is upon us.

We call on this council in each of the 7 DEAs to re-wild a minimum 1 extra space each year outside of what is already planned or programmed.

We further call on this council to promote this initiative and working alongside members in each area to identify achievable and appropriate sites, where working with the community we create re-wilded spaces where local communities can feel part of challenging climate change”.

Councillor Howell seconded the Motion.

The Chairperson advised that in accordance with Standing Order 16.1.6 the motion would be referred to the Sustainability Working Group.

Agreed: The Motion was referred to the Sustainability Working Group in accordance with Standing Order 16.1.6.

**Northern Ireland Office calling for the swift
introduction of a similar scheme locally.**

C/160/2019

EARLY DIAGNOSIS OF BOWEL AND BREAST CANCER

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

“This Council notes that early diagnosis of Bowel and Breast Cancer offers Patients the best chance of a successful treatment. England, Scotland, Wales and the Republic of Ireland all currently use the faecal immunochemical test (FIT) and have a lowered age for screening. NHS England are currently trialling Breast Cancer Screening at the lower age of 47 and the upper age of 72.

This Council will write to the Permanent Secretary for Health Mr Richard Pengelley highlighting the difference in the screening service provision across the UK and Ireland and calling for a review into Bowel Cancer Screening services in the North and to follow the English NHS lead in trialling Breast Cancer Screening at a lower age here in Northern Ireland.

The Council will write to the 10 other Councils requesting that they join Newry, Mourne and Down District Council in calling on the Permanent Secretary to commit to a review of Bowel and Breast Cancer Screening as outlined.”

In proposing and seconding the motion, Councillors Trainor and Hanlon advised that they were raising awareness of two of the most common types of cancer that affect people in the North, bowel and breast cancer.

In presenting the Motion the following points were highlighted:

- In Northern Ireland around 1,200 men and women were diagnosed with bowel cancer every year, making it the second most common cancer.
- It was also the second most common cause of cancer death with about 420 deaths each year.
- Breast cancer accounted for 30% of all cancer in women in Northern Ireland.
- One in eight women were diagnosed with breast cancer during their lifetime.
- For bowel cancer two very important changes were required
 1. The age in which home screening could take place via the health service - To be lowered to 50 in line with other areas of the UK as evidence showed screening people at a younger age would allow more bowel cancers to be picked up at an earlier stage
 2. The type of test used for screening - Northern Ireland was the only area within the UK and Ireland that did not use Faecal Immunochemical Test (FIT), even though the UK National Screening Committee has made recommendations that FIT be used.
- Reference was made to the success of the Action Cancer bus and Action Cancer charity which was always fully booked and provided screening for people who fall outside NHS guidelines for breast screening.

Councillor McKevitt took the opportunity to highlight the Public Health Agency provide free programmes for cervical, breast and bowel screening through local community groups.

Agreed: This Council notes that early diagnosis of Bowel and Breast Cancer offers Patients the best chance of a successful treatment. England, Scotland, Wales and the Republic of Ireland all currently use the faecal immunochemical test (FIT) and have a lowered age for screening. NHS England are currently trialling Breast Cancer Screening at the lower age of 47 and the upper age of 72.

This Council will write to the Permanent Secretary for Health Mr Richard Pengelley highlighting the difference in the screening service provision across the UK and Ireland and calling for a review into Bowel Cancer Screening services in the North and to follow the English NHS lead in trialling Breast Cancer Screening at a lower age here in Northern Ireland. The Council will write to the 10 other Councils requesting that they join Newry, Mourne and Down District Council in calling on the Permanent Secretary to commit to a review of Bowel and Breast Cancer Screening as outlined

C/161/2019 **CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION PLAN ISLANDS PARK, NEWCASTLE**

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

“This Council recognises the significant impact that climate change will have on our communities, Council agrees to manage Islands Park, Newcastle, as a climate change park to support climate change mitigation and adaptation. Council will develop an action plan which will prioritise a number of exemplar projects, including eco-friendly replacement of car parks, permeable pavements, further recycling, wildflower meadows for pollinator bees and butterflies, establishment of a wetlands habitat, planting of a native fruit orchard and green transport connectivity”.

Councillor McEvoy seconded the Motion.

The Chairperson advised that in accordance with Standing Order 16.1.6 the motion would be referred to the Sustainability Working Group.

Agreed: **The Motion was referred to the Sustainability Working Group in accordance with Standing Order 16.1.6.**

C/162/2019 **ABORTION LAWS**

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

“That this Council opposed the imposition of laws on the introduction of laissez faire human abortion into Northern Ireland”

While proposing the motion, Councillor Reilly put forward an amended motion as follows:

“That this Council expresses its deep concern at the decision by Westminster to effectively extend the 1967 Abortion Act to Northern Ireland against the wishes of the people of Northern Ireland and their elected representatives, notes the sensitivity and complexity of this issue, acknowledges the need for sensitive consideration that deals with difficult cases and offers support to women in crisis pregnancies and instructs the Chief Executive to write to the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland requesting that he ensures no legislative changes on abortion be considered until the Northern Ireland Assembly is restored.”

Councillor Savage seconded the amended motion.

Councillor Clarke raised a point of order regarding provision in Standing Orders for amending motions.

The Chairperson advised the meeting would be adjourned at this point for officers to consult Standing Orders.

The meeting did then adjourn – 8.45pm

The meeting did then resume – 9.00pm.

The Chief Executive referred to Standing Orders section 19.2 – under which Councillor Reilly was entitled to alter his motion. The Council was agreeable and the amended motion was put to the Council meeting.

Councillor Brown then proposed an amendment to Councillor Reilly’s motion as follows:

“Welcoming any changes which bring NI into line with international human rights standards and provide equal access to reproductive health care for pregnant people but notes that this is primarily a matter for a reformed Assembly.”

Councillor McMurray seconded Councillor Brown’s amendment

In accepting the amendment from Councillor Brown, Councillor Reilly requested that the Chairperson put said amendment to a recorded vote, the results of which were as follows (copy of recorded vote appended to these minutes)

| | |
|---------------------|-----------|
| FOR: | 2 |
| AGAINST: | 26 |
| ABSTENTIONS: | 0 |

Councillor Brown’s proposed amendment was LOST.

Following lengthy discussions during which arguments and points were raised in support of and against Councillor Reilly's motion, Councillor Howell proposed a further amendment which was seconded by Councillor Hanlon to remove all wording contained within Councillor Reilly's motion after 'that deals with difficult cases' and replace with the following:

"This Council regrets that the Assembly is not in place to provide modern health care for women, including terminations where a woman's life, health or mental health is at risk and in cases of fatal foetal abnormality and sexual crime. Council recognises that it is not possible to legislate for abortion in the case of rape in a compassionate way. Council accepts that termination without specific indication should be available for a limited gestational period through a GP led service in a clinical context. Council also calls for British legislation which criminalises women who have an abortion to be repealed immediately".

As Councillor Reilly did not accept Councillor Howell's proposed amendment, the Chairperson put the matter to a recorded vote, the results of which were as follows (copy of recorded vote appended to these minutes)

**FOR: 14
AGAINST: 14
ABSTENTIONS: 0**

The Chairperson used his casting vote FOR the motion.

The proposal was CARRIED.

Councillors Brown and Gallagher left the chamber at this point – 9.10pm

Councillor Howell's motion then became the substantive motion and the Chairperson did then put the substantive motion proposed by Councillor Howell and seconded by Councillor Hanlon to a recorded vote, the results of which were as follows (copy of recorded vote appended to these minutes).

**FOR: 13
AGAINST: 13
ABSTENTIONS: 0**

The Chairperson used his casting vote FOR the motion.

The proposal was CARRIED.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Howell, seconded by Councillor Hanlon that this Council expresses its deep concern at the decision by Westminster to effectively extend the 1967 Abortion Act to Northern Ireland against the wishes of the people of Northern Ireland and their elected representatives, notes the sensitivity and complexity of this issue, acknowledges the need for sensitive consideration that deals with difficult cases.

This Council regrets that the Assembly is not in place to provide modern health care for women, including terminations where a woman's life, health or mental health is at risk and in cases of fatal foetal abnormality and sexual crime.

Council recognises that it is not possible to legislate for abortion in the case of rape in a compassionate way. Council accepts that termination without specific indication should be available for a limited gestational period through a GP led service in a clinical context. Council also calls for British legislation which criminalises women who have an abortion to be repealed immediately.

Councillors Hanna and Reilly left the chamber at this point – 9.23pm.

C/163/2019: ATM CHARGES

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

“Newry Mourne & Down Council recognising the growing concerns in relation to ATM charges and the financial difficulties these charges cause particularly to our most vulnerable citizens, contact the Financial Secretary to the Treasury, asking that he look at this issue and introduce measures to reduce or remove these charges for the benefit of customers and shop owners”.

In presenting the motion Councillor Magennis stated that banks and building societies should provide ATMs as a service to customers and not as another source of income. She raised the following points:

- Over recent years a large number of branches had been closed and replaced with ATMs.
- Brand named bank machines have begun to disappear and independent cash machine have entered the market place and charge 95p to £2 per transaction.
- Wages, benefits and pensions were paid direct into banks and these charges were an extra burden on people of fixed and low income.
- In the absence of branches people have no option but use ATMs and were incurring extra expense through charges.

Councillor Magennis requested Council register its objection to these charges by backing the motion to abolish charges on all former free to use ATMs.

In seconding the motion Councillor McAteer asked for a slight amendment to be made which was:

‘and appoint a Regulator to monitor this facet of banking’.

Councillor Magennis accepted Councillor McAteer's amendment.

Members were all in support of the motion.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Magennis, seconded by Councillor McAteer that Newry Mourne & Down Council recognising the growing concerns in relation to ATM charges and the financial difficulties these charges cause particularly to our most vulnerable citizens, contact the Financial Secretary to the Treasury asking that he look at this issue and introduce measures to reduce or remove these charges for the benefit of customers and shop owners, and that he and appoint a Regulator to monitor this facet of banking.

C/164/2019 MEMORY GARDENS

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

“This Council recognises there is no greater heartbreak or tragedy to befall a family than the death of a child.

We acknowledge the importance of small memory gardens where families can visit for reflection, remember their deceased children and find solace in a purpose build peaceful setting, other than a cemetery and to that end this council now proposed to provide 2 such facilities within our district.

A memory garden is a simple construct, a small corner in one of our public spaces surrounded by a small hedge for privacy and containing nothing more than a couple of benches with a few symbolic flowers and plants.

Our officers will now identify a potential host site on council land in each of our Health Trust areas to establish our first two highly symbolic memory gardens and then immediately proceed with their design and construction. “

The Chief Executive confirmed he had been in contact with Councillor Tinnelly and he was content that the issue be tabled at the Neighbourhood Services Committee.

Agreed: The Motion was referred to the Neighbourhood Services Committee in accordance with Standing Order 16.1.6.

C/165/2019: OPPOSE TO DEVELOP A GOLDMINE

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

“This Council opposes plans to develop a goldmine and carry out prospecting in Slieve Gullion DEA, and indeed across the wider council area. As such, we believe that it should be written into our Local Development Plan. Furthermore, given the serious health and environmental risks involved, this Council is opposed to the use of cyanide for mining purposes, which also contravenes the European Parliament resolution of 27 April 2017 on the implementation of the Mining Waste Directive”

In proposing the motion, Councillor Hearty highlighted the following:

- The plans presented too many risks to the people in the area.
- It was an area of outstanding beauty and an area of special scientific interest.
- It would be highly destructive to the land, water and wildlife in the Ring of Gullion.
- Trouble had been caused by prospecting in other areas of Ireland.
- With recent protests regarding climate change, what message would it send out if Council was to allow plans to develop a goldmine and carryout prospecting in South Armagh.

In seconding the motion, Councillor Ó Muirí referred to a public meeting held in Silverbridge and the 'Save Our Sperrins' campaign that asked Council to explore all ways to ban the practice of goldmining and prospecting to protect land. He made reference to other Councils, such as Derry & Strabane and Mid Ulster Council, threatening legal action against Department for the Economy for granting prospecting licences in their area and the need for Newry, Mourne and Down District Council to protect the whole District.

Councillor Byrne spoke in support of the motion highlighting the need for this matter to be included within the Newry, Mourne and Down District Local Development Plan.

Members were all in support of the motion.

Agreed: **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Hearty, seconded by Councillor Ó Muirí that this Council opposes plans to develop a goldmine and carry out prospecting in Slieve Gullion DEA, and indeed across the wider council area. As such, we believe that it should be written into our Local Development Plan. Furthermore, given the serious health and environmental risks involved, this Council is opposed to the use of cyanide for mining purposes, which also contravenes the European Parliament resolution of 27 April 2017 on the implementation of the Mining Waste Directive”**

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 9.34pm.

Signed:

Chairman

Chief Executive

NEWRY, MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL
RECORDED VOTE

DATE: 07/10/2019

VENUE: Downpatrick

MEETING: Council

SUBJECT OF VOTE: Patrick Brown - SPR/114/2019 – Notice of Motion – 1) Overturn the decision & go back to get costings before taking a decision 2) 3 Motions per Councillor per month

| COUNCILLOR | FOR | AGAINST | ABSTAIN | ABSENT |
|---------------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| T Andrews | | | | √ |
| P Brown | √ | | | |
| R Burgess | | √ | | |
| P Byrne | | √ | | |
| C Casey | | √ | | |
| W Clarke | | √ | | |
| D Curran | | √ | | |
| L Devlin | | √ | | |
| S Doran | | √ | | |
| C Enright | √ | | | |
| H Gallagher | | √ | | |
| M Gibbons | | √ | | |
| O Hanlon | | √ | | |
| G Hanna | | √ | | |
| V Harte | | √ | | |
| T Hearty | | √ | | |
| R Howell | | √ | | |
| L Kimmins | | √ | | |
| M Larkin | | √ | | |
| A Lewis | | | | √ |
| O Magennis | | √ | | |
| G Malone | | √ | | |
| C Mason | | √ | | |
| D McAteer | | √ | | |
| L McEvoy | | √ | | |
| H McKee | | √ | | |
| K McKevitt | | √ | | |
| A McMurray | √ | | | |
| R Mulgrew | | √ | | |
| G O'Hare | | √ | | |
| B Ó Muirí | | √ | | |
| H Reilly | | | √ | |
| M Ruane | | √ | | |
| M Savage | | √ | | |
| G Sharvin | | | | √ |
| G Stokes | | √ | | |
| D Taylor | | | √ | |
| J Tinnelly | | | | √ |
| J Trainor | | √ | | |
| B Walker | | √ | | |
| TOTALS | 3 | 31 | 2 | 4 |

NEWRY, MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL
RECORDED VOTE

DATE: _07/10/2019 VENUE: Downpatrick MEETING: Council

SUBJECT OF VOTE: Patrick Brown – Amendment to Councillor Reilly Motion – Abortion Laws

| COUNCILLOR | FOR | AGAINST | ABSTAIN | ABSENT |
|---------------|----------|-----------|----------|-----------|
| T Andrews | | | | √ |
| P Brown | √ | | | |
| R Burgess | | | | √ |
| P Byrne | | √ | | |
| C Casey | | √ | | |
| W Clarke | | √ | | |
| D Curran | | √ | | |
| L Devlin | | | | √ |
| S Doran | | √ | | |
| C Enright | | | | √ |
| H Gallagher | | √ | | |
| M Gibbons | | √ | | |
| O Hanlon | | √ | | |
| G Hanna | | √ | | |
| V Harte | | | | √ |
| T Hearty | | √ | | |
| R Howell | | √ | | |
| L Kimmins | | | | √ |
| M Larkin | | | | √ |
| A Lewis | | | | √ |
| O Magennis | | √ | | |
| G Malone | | √ | | |
| C Mason | | √ | | |
| D McAteer | | √ | | |
| L McEvoy | | √ | | |
| H McKee | | √ | | |
| K McKevitt | | √ | | |
| A McMurray | √ | | | |
| R Mulgrew | | | | √ |
| G O'Hare | | √ | | |
| B Ó Muirí | | √ | | |
| H Reilly | | √ | | |
| M Ruane | | √ | | |
| M Savage | | √ | | |
| G Sharvin | | | | √ |
| G Stokes | | √ | | |
| D Taylor | | √ | | |
| J Tinnelly | | | | √ |
| J Trainor | | √ | | |
| B Walker | | √ | | √ |
| TOTALS | 2 | 26 | 0 | 12 |

RECORDED VOTE

DATE: 07/10/2019

VENUE: Downpatrick

MEETING: Council

SUBJECT OF VOTE: Roisin Howell – Amendment to Councillor Reilly Motion – Abortion Laws

| COUNCILLOR | FOR | AGAINST | ABSTAIN | ABSENT |
|---------------|-----------|-----------|----------|-----------|
| T Andrews | | | | √ |
| P Brown | √ | | | |
| R Burgess | | | | √ |
| P Byrne | | √ | | |
| C Casey | √ | | | |
| W Clarke | √ | | | |
| D Curran | | √ | | |
| L Devlin | | | | √ |
| S Doran | √ | | | |
| C Enright | | | | √ |
| H Gallagher | | √ | | |
| M Gibbons | | √ | | |
| O Hanlon | √ | | | |
| G Hanna | | √ | | |
| V Harte | | | | √ |
| T Hearty | √ | | | |
| R Howell | √ | | | |
| L Kimmins | | | | √ |
| M Larkin | | | | √ |
| A Lewis | | | | √ |
| O Magennis | √ | | | |
| G Malone | | √ | | |
| C Mason | √ | | | |
| D McAteer | | √ | | |
| L McEvoy | √ | | | |
| H McKee | | √ | | |
| K McKevitt | | √ | | |
| A McMurray | √ | | | |
| R Mulgrew | | | | √ |
| G O'Hare | √ | | | |
| B Ó Muirí | √ | | | |
| H Reilly | | √ | | |
| M Ruane | √ | | | |
| M Savage | | √ | | |
| G Sharvin | | | | √ |
| G Stokes | | √ | | |
| D Taylor | | √ | | |
| J Tinnelly | | | | √ |
| J Trainor | | √ | | |
| B Walker | | | | √ |
| TOTALS | 14 | 14 | 0 | 12 |

NEWRY, MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL
RECORDED VOTE

DATE: _07/10/2019 VENUE: Downpatrick MEETING: Council

SUBJECT OF VOTE: Councillor Reilly Substantive Motion – Abortion Laws

| COUNCILLOR | FOR | AGAINST | ABSTAIN | ABSENT |
|---------------|-----------|-----------|----------|-----------|
| T Andrews | | | | √ |
| P Brown | | | | √ |
| R Burgess | | | | √ |
| P Byrne | | √ | | |
| C Casey | √ | | | |
| W Clarke | √ | | | |
| D Curran | | √ | | |
| L Devlin | | | | √ |
| S Doran | √ | | | |
| C Enright | | | | √ |
| H Gallagher | | | | √ |
| M Gibbons | | √ | | |
| O Hanlon | √ | | | |
| G Hanna | | √ | | |
| V Harte | | | | √ |
| T Hearty | √ | | | |
| R Howell | √ | | | |
| L Kimmins | | | | √ |
| M Larkin | | | | √ |
| A Lewis | | | | √ |
| O Magennis | √ | | | |
| G Malone | | √ | | |
| C Mason | √ | | | |
| D McAteer | | √ | | |
| L McEvoy | √ | | | |
| H McKee | | √ | | |
| K McKeivitt | | √ | | |
| A McMurray | √ | | | |
| R Mulgrew | | | | √ |
| G O'Hare | √ | | | |
| B Ó Muirí | √ | | | |
| H Reilly | | √ | | |
| M Ruane | √ | | | |
| M Savage | | √ | | |
| G Sharvin | | | | √ |
| G Stokes | | √ | | |
| D Taylor | | √ | | |
| J Tinnelly | | | | √ |
| J Trainor | | √ | | |
| B Walker | | | | √ |
| TOTALS | 13 | 13 | 0 | 14 |