

NEWRY MOURNE AND DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism Committee Meeting held on
Monday 11 April 2016 at 6.00pm in the Boardroom, District Council Offices,
Monaghan Row, Newry**

Chairperson: Councillor D Curran

Deputy Chairperson: Councillor R Mulgrew

In Attendance: **(Committee Members)**

Councillor R Burgess

Councillor W Clarke

Councillor P Byrne

Councillor G Hanna

Councillor V Harte

Councillor H Harvey

Councillor T Hearty

Councillor D McAteer

Councillor M Ruane

Councillor B Quinn

Councillor G Stokes

Officials in Attendance:

Mr L Hannaway, Chief Executive

Ms M Ward, Director Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism

Ms D Carville Director of Corporate Services

Mr J McGilly, Assistant Director Enterprise Regeneration
& Tourism

Mr M Mohan, Senior Tourism Initiatives Manager

Ms M Boyle, Tourism Development Officer

Ms L Dillon, Democratic Services Officer

ERT/51/2016: APOLOGIES AND CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

The following apologies were received:

Councillor S Ennis

Councillor T Andrews

Councillor Curran welcomed the newly appointed Director of Corporate Services, Mrs Dorinnia Carville, to the meeting.

ERT/52/2016: MESSAGE OF SYMPATHY

Councillor Quinn expressed his sincere condolences to the family of late Irene Adair. He said Irene had been a very involved member of the Tourism Committee on the legacy Newry & Mourne District Council and ran her own Guest House in the District, and he requested that the Council send a letter of sympathy to her family.

Noted: The Chairman of Council, Councillor Ruane, pointed out that requests for letters of sympathy should be made through the Chairpersons Office by way of an email or phone call.

AGREED: **It was unanimously agreed to send a letter of sympathy to the family of the late Irene Adair who recently passed away.**

ERT/53/2016: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received.

**ERT/54/2016: ACTION SHEET
MINUTES OF ENTERPRISE REGENERATION & TOURISM
COMMITTEE MEETING
MONDAY 14 MARCH 2016**

Read: Action Sheet arising out of the Minutes of the Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Committee Meeting held on Monday 14 March 2016. (Copy circulated)

AGREED: **It was agreed to note the Action Sheet arising out of the Minutes of the Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Committee Meeting held on Monday 14 March 2016.**

ENTERPRISE, EMPLOYMENT & REGENERATION ITEMS

ERT/55/2016: ERT – BUSINESS PLAN

Read: Report dated Monday 4 April 2016 from Ms M Ward Director Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism regarding progress on the ERT Business Plan up to the end of March 2016. (Copy enclosed)

AGREED: **On the proposal of Councillor Hanna seconded by Councillor McAteer it was agreed to approve the Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Business Plan Report Card (Version 1.0), as contained in Report dated 4 April 2016 from Ms M Ward Director ERT, and to continue to table Business Plan progress reports in `traffic light system` format, to**

meetings of the Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Committee on a quarterly basis.

NOTED: The ERT Business Plan will be reviewed on an annual basis and should Elected Members have any issues that these be raised with Ms M Ward Director of ERT.

**ERT/56/2016: DARD CONSULTATION
RE: DESIGNATION OF AREAS OF NATURAL CONSTRAINT (ANC)**

Read: Report from Ms T Hamill Ring of Gullion AONB Officer regarding a response to a DARD Consultation to seek the views of stakeholders on the Designation of Areas of Natural Constraint (ANC) and options for future support to areas of Natural Constraint. (Copy enclosed)

Councillor McAteer and Councillor Burgess both expressed concern at the fact no funding figure had been published under Q1, Point 5(b), ie, a transitional ANC Scheme in Pillar II for the 2017 and 2018 claim, and they cautioned against approving the consultation response without first clarifying what this amount is likely to be.

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Burgess seconded by Councillor McAteer it was agreed to approve the response to DARD Consultation regarding Designation of Areas of Natural Constraint (ANC) and options for future support to ANCs, as contained in report from Ms T Hamill Ring of Gullion AONB Officer, subject to Council Officers seeking clarification/advice regarding Page 5, number 5(b), as contained under Options Q1, to establish what the funding figure will be as no indication of the amount has been published.

TOURISM CULTURE & EVENTS ITEMS

ERT/57/2016: DOWN JUNIOR GOLF CHALLENGE 2016

Read: Report dated 11 April 2016 from Mr M Mahon, Senior Tourism Initiatives Manager regarding the Down Junior Golf Challenge 2016. (Copy circulated)

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Clarke seconded by Councillor McAteer it was agreed to appoint Match Play Media to deliver the Down Junior Golf Challenge 2016, as per Report dated 11 April 2016 from Mr M Mohan Senior Tourism Initiatives Manager.

ERT/58/2016: NEWCASTLE GATEWAY/GONDOLA DEVELOPMENTS

Read: Report dated 11 April 2016 from Mr M Mahon, Senior Tourism Initiatives regarding tendering to develop a visioning document for Newcastle and proposed Gondola developments. (Copy circulated)

Councillor Quinn felt the Council should perhaps in the first instance, carry out a community consultation regarding the development of a vision document for Newcastle.

Councillor Clarke said the legacy Down District Council had spent a considerable amount of money on a feasibility study for the Gondola development and the vast majority of people

understand the benefits this will bring in boosting a tourism package for the area. He accepted that an initiative of this scale would invite many different views from people. He suggested the development should be given a new name which would link to the area.

Councillor Burgess pointed out that proposals for the Chair Lift should go beyond the Quarry and continue to the top of the mountain.

Ms Ward explained the purpose of the study was to look at all aspects and that a consultation with key stakeholders would be included as part of this study and she assured that any progress made would be based on a public and statutory consultation.

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Burgess seconded by Councillor Clarke it was agreed the Council proceed to seek tenders to develop a Visioning Document for Newcastle and proposed Gondola Developments, as per Report dated 11 April 2016 from Senior Tourism Initiatives Manager.

ERT/59/2016: MOORING FACILITIES – ALBERT BASIN QUAYSIDE

Read: Report from Ms M Boyle, Tourism Development Officer regarding options for Mooring facilities at Albert Basin Quayside, Newry. (Copy circulated)

Councillor Stokes said the Council should consider forming a Liaison Group involving Councillors and users of the mooring facilities to ensure no breakdown in communication occurs.

Ms Ward said Officials can look at the possibility of forming a Liaison Committee regarding Albert Basin Quayside and report back on this suggestion in due course but she assured Members that Officers had taken on board any comments from the users regarding the provision of mooring facilities at Albert Basin Quayside.

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Stokes seconded by Councillor Harte it was agreed as follows:

- (a) The Council provide the mooring facility at Albert Basin Quayside without electricity and remove the restriction on boat numbers.**
- (b) Officers to investigate if one electrical power point can be provided which is metered and booked and paid for separately upon request on a daily basis rate.**

- (c) **Officers to examine the possibility of forming a Liaison Committee for the Albert Basin Quayside, to involve the users of the facilities at this location.**

**ERT/60/2016: SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT
TOURISM NI**

Read: Report dated 4 April 2016 from Ms M Ward, Director of Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism regarding a Service Level Agreement with Tourism NI.
(Copy circulated)

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Quinn seconded by Councillor Clarke it was agreed to approve the Service Level Agreement between Newry Mourne & Down District Council and Tourism NI, as per Report dated 4 April 2016 from Ms M Ward Director of Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism.

**ERT/61/2016: UPDATE
RE: LOCATION OF TOURISM NI STAFF MEMBER**

Councillor Hearty asked for an update regarding the co-location of a Tourism NI staff member and where this member of staff would be located within the District.

NOTED: It was noted arrangements for the co-location of a Tourism NI staff member to the District were nearly finalised and Officers hoped to be in a position to announce details shortly.

FOR NOTING

ERT/62/2016: SLIEVE GULLION FORWARD PLANNING

Read: Report dated 23 March 2016 from Ms M Boyle, Tourism Development Officer regarding Meeting of Slieve Gullion Councillors, Forestry Service and Clanrye Group held on 21 March 2016 regarding forward planning for Slieve Gullion Forest Park. (Copy circulated)

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Burgess seconded by Councillor Byrne it was agreed to note Report of Meeting of Slieve Gullion Councillors, Forestry Service and Clanrye Group held on 21 March 2016 regarding forward planning for Slieve Gullion Forest Park, as follows:

- (a) To note the park and ride facility operating from Jonesborough**
- (b) To note that Clanrye have appointed Syngé and Byrne as new café provider.**

ERT/63/2016: TOURISM STRATEGY – TASK & FINISH

Read: Report dated 5 April 2016 from Ms M Boyle, Tourism Development Officer regarding the Tourism Strategy Task & Finish Project Board Meeting held on 24 February 2016. (Copy circulated)

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Burgess seconded by Councillor Byrne it was agreed to note update on the Tourism Strategy development as per Report dated 5 April 2016 from Ms M Boyle Tourism Development Officer.

ERT/64/2016: BRITISH TRAVEL & TOURISM SHOW

Read: Report dated 24 March 2016 from Ms M McKeown reporting on the British Travel & Tourism Show held in Birmingham on 16/17 March 2016. (Copy circulated)

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Burgess seconded by Councillor Byrne it was agreed to note Report dated 24 March 2016 from Ms M McKeown regarding Council attendance at the British Travel & Tourism Show held in Birmingham on 16/17 March 2016, and note that Officers recommend continued attendance at this very popular event which will be held in Birmingham around the same dates in 2017.

ERT/66/2016: EXPLORE GB EVENT

Read: Report dated 24 March 2016 from Ms M McKeown reporting on the Explore GP event held in Liverpool on 3-5 March 2016. (Copy circulated)

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Burgess seconded by Councillor Byrne it was agreed to note Report dated 24 March 2016 from Ms M McKeown regarding Council attendance at the Explore GP event held in Liverpool on 3-5 March 2016 and to note that Officers recommend continued attendance at this prestigious event which will be held in Brighton in 2017.

**ERT/67/2016: DOE ENVIRONMENT FUND
ENVIRONMENTALLY PROTECTED AREA MANAGEMENT**

Read: Report from Mr D Rice, Ring of Gullion, LSP Manager regarding a DOE Environment Fund for Ring of Gullion AONB, LPS and SLLP. (Copy enclosed)

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Burgess seconded by Councillor Byrne it was agreed to note and approve that Council accept and sign the letter

of offer from DOE Environment Fund for Ring of Gullion AONB, LPS and SLLP, and that Officers review budget and work plans as a result of the funding cuts and arrange to bring back a paper to a future meeting of the ERT Committee outlining the implications of the funding cuts.

NOTED: The reduced level of funding will mean a reduction of resources and the need to focus on essential projects which meet the requirements of the offer letter.

ERT/68/2016: SCHEME OF DELEGATION

Read: Scheme of Delegation. (Copy circulated)

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Burgess seconded by Councillor Byrne it was agreed to note the Scheme of Delegation.

**ERT/69/2016: TENDER
PUPPET FOR WARRENPOINT 'WAKE THE GIANT' FESTIVAL
AUGUST 2016**

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor McAteer seconded by Councillor Burgess 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 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).

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Burgess seconded by Councillor McAteer it was agreed the Committee come 'out of closed session'.

Agreed: When the Committee came 'out of closed session', the Chairman reported it was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Ruane seconded by Councillor Clarke, to engage an artist to design, create, manufacture, deliver to site and manipulate one giant puppet for the Wake the Giant Festival in Warrenpoint on Sunday 21 August 2016. Costs to be taken from the Festival budget.

Councillor Curran wished Members a success Election.

The Meeting concluded at 6.40pm.

For consideration at the Council Meeting to be held on Tuesday 3 May 2016

Signed: Councillor D Curran
Chairperson

Signed: Ms M Ward
Director of Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism