

NEWRY, MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism Committee Meeting
held on Monday 14 January at 3.00pm in the Boardroom, District Council
Offices, Monaghan Row, Newry**

Chairperson: Councillor Ruane

In Attendance: **(Committee Members)**

Councillor R Burgess
Councillor C Casey
Councillor W Clarke
Councillor G Hanna
Councillor H Harvey
Councillor R Mulgrew
Councillor D McAteer
Councillor O McMahon
Councillor B Quinn
Councillor G Stokes
Councillor J Tinnelly

Officials

in Attendance: Ms M Ward, Director Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism
Mr A Patterson, Asst. Director, Tourism, Culture & Events
Ms P McKeever, Democratic Services Officer

Others

in Attendance: Mr E Magennis, Ulster University

ERT/001/2019: APOLOGIES / CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

Apologies were received for Councillors Byrne, Carr and Curran.

ERT/002/2019: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest received.

**ERT/003/2019: ACTION SHEET MINUTES OF ENTERPRISE, REGENERATION
AND TOURISM MEETING OF MONDAY 10 DECEMBER 2018**

Read: Action Sheet arising out of the Minutes of the Enterprise, Regeneration
& Tourism Committee Meeting held on Monday 10 December 2018.
(Copy circulated)

Agreed: **On the proposal of Councillor Burgess seconded by Councillor
Hanna it was agreed to note the Action Sheet arising out of
the Minutes of the Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism**

Committee Meeting held on Monday 12 November 2018.

ERT/004/2019: PRESENTATION EOIN MAGENNIS, ULSTER UNIVERSITY ON 2019 ECONOMIC CONTEXTS, OUTLOOKS AND CONSIDERATIONS FOR THE DISTRICT

The Chairperson welcomed Mr Eoin Magennis from Ulster University and invited him to deliver his presentation. **(Copy attached).**

Following the presentation, discussion took place and the following issues were raised:

- Concerns regarding the future of the agri sector in terms of the uncertainty surrounding Brexit and the retail sector in terms of the shift in consumer online spend.
- Business investment has been low for the past few years across the UK.
- There are fewer companies competing with regard to the procurement of public works in N Ireland.
- The continued growth of the construction industry in Dublin has resulted in large numbers of workers in the District travelling to Dublin for work.
- Growth is needed across all levels of pay within the tourism industry, currently difficult to recruit staff on lower incomes.
- With the increase in online shopping, the make up of the high street is changing and towns are moving towards more recreational spaces with some retail units.

The Chairperson thanked Mr Magennis for his presentation and he left the meeting.

ENTERPRISE, EMPLOYMENT AND REGENERATION ITEMS

ERT/005/2019: VILLAGE RENEWAL APPLICATION TO RDP

Read: Report dated 14 January 2019 from Mr Jonathan McGilly, Assistant Director Enterprise, Employment and Regeneration regarding Village Renewal Application to RDP. **(Copy circulated)**

Ms Ward advised the Members that Mr McGilly had recently transferred to Community Planning on a temporary basis and they were currently in the process of backfilling his post. She congratulated Amanda Smyth on her recent appointment as Head of Regeneration and Business Development.

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Casey seconded by Councillor McAteer the following was agreed:

- **Using the Council's Framework for Integrated Consultancy Services to appoint an Integrated Consultancy Team to manage full design and statutory requirements for all schemes. The cost of this is anticipated to £200,000, up to RIBA Stage 4 and this is available within current budgets.**
- **Council will also undertake procurement for the identification of a preferred contractor(s) for implementation of capital works of approximately £3.2 m. 75% of these costs will be applied for in**

an application to RDP. 25% balance is available within the Capital budget. Procurement of a contractor is a pre application eligibility requirement. No appointment will be made until a Letter of Offer is secured.

- To make applications to the Mourne Gullion Lecale Village Renewal measure for implementation of capital works
- If a Letter of Offer is secured:
 - To sign and accept the Letter of Offer
 - To formally appoint the contractor(s)
 - To further engage the Integrate consultancy Team to manage the project through RIBA stages 5 and 6 at an estimated cost of £80,000. It would be expected that 75% of this cost will be included in the LoO to be secured through RDP and 25% of cost will be paid by Council from available budgets.

ERT/006/2019: CASTLEWELLAN FOREST PARK HLF AND DAERA APPLICATION

Read: Report dated 14 January 2019 from Mr Jonathan McGilly, Assistant Director Enterprise, Employment and Regeneration regarding Castlewellan Forest Park HLF and DAERA Application. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Burgess seconded by Councillor Clarke the following was agreed:

- Accept and sign off on Economic Appraisal
- Accept Letter of Offer of Round One funding by HLF
- Council to continue working towards submitting DAERA application before 31st January 2019.
- Proceed with issuing ITT for Integrated Supply Team for Walled Garden, Bothy Yard and Rhododendron Wood. The tendered prices to inform DAERA application.
- Explore the option of an additional DAERA application for Grange.
- Proceed with finalising Job Description of Project Development Officer for Castlewellan Project
- Begin preparing tender documentation for Integrated Design Team for Grange/ Traffic as part of HLF Development Phase
- Begin preparing tender documentation for Horticulturalist works as part of HLF Development Phase
- Issue Press Release and have a Photocall before Christmas Holiday with appropriate approval from HLF and NMDDC Marketing team.
- Continue to keep both HLF and DAERA apprised of progress. Establish time-table for HLF Round 2 submission.
- Council Inter-Departmental team to be established to inform HLF Development Phase.
- NMDDC and FS to liaise on Agreement to Lease.

ERT/007/2019: ULSTER UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

Read: Report dated 14 January 2019 from Mr Jonathan McGilly, Assistant Director Enterprise, Employment and Regeneration regarding Ulster University Partnership Agreement. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Stokes seconded by Councillor McMahon it was agreed to renew Council's Partnership Agreement with the Ulster University for a 2 year period between February 2019 and January 2021 at a cost of £25,390.

ERT/008/2019: YOUNG ENTERPRISE NI – SUPPORT FOR STUDENT SKILLS DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS

Read: Report dated 14 January 2019 from Ms Marie Ward, Director Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism regarding Young Enterprise NI.

Ms Ward advised Members that a total of 900 students from across the Southern Region would be engaged in the Digital and Tourism Masterclass/ Quick Start Programme to be delivered by Young Enterprise NI.

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Harvey, seconded by Councillor Burgess it was agreed to provide an SLA of £10,000 to Young Enterprise for delivery of Digital and Tourism Masterclass / Quick start Programme within NMD Secondary Schools.

ERT/009/2019: CONFERENCE, DRIVING SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CHANGE – LA MON HOTEL & COUNTRY CLUB, BELFAST ON 24 JANUARY 2019.

Councillor Burgess indicated his intention to attend the conference. Ms Ward asked that Members advise Mrs McKeever if they were intending to go to the conference.

TOURISM, CULTURE AND EVENTS ITEMS

ERT/010/2019: MINOR WORKS AT TYRELLA BEACH

Read: Report dated 14 January 2019 from Mr Andy Patterson, Assistant Director Tourism, Culture and Events regarding Minor Works at Tyrella Beach. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Harvey seconded by Councillor

Clarke it was agreed to grant approval to progress a works contact through the Council's CPD framework to implement capital improvement works at Tyrella Beach.

ERT/011/2019: ROSTREVOR DOWNHILL TRAILS

Read: Report dated 14 January 2019 from Mr Andy Patterson, Assistant Director Tourism, Culture and Events regarding Rostrevor Downhill Trails. **(Copy circulated)**

Councillor McAteer referred to the development of walking trails in Kilbroney Park and asked for assurance they would still be progressed. Ms Ward advised that both Rostrevor Downhill Trails and Kilbroney Park walking trails would be funded and delivered within the current financial year.

Agreed: **On the proposal of Councillor McAteer, seconded by Councillor Clarke the following was agreed through the CPD Framework undertake a design and build contract to facilitate the trail enhancements which will improve the trail flow and encourage a greater number of visitors to the trails.**

FOR NOTING

ERT/012/2019: SCHEME OF DELEGATION

Read: Scheme of Delegation.

Agreed: **It was agreed to 'note' the Scheme of Delegation.**

ERT/013/2019: ACTION TRACKER UPDATE SHEET

Read: Action Tracker Update Sheet.

Agreed: **It was agreed to 'note' the Action Tracker Update Sheet.**

EXEMPT INFORMATION

Agreed: **On the proposal of Councillor Burgess seconded by Councillor Casey it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on the following matters 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/014/2019: TRADING PITCH AT SLIEVE GULLION FOREST PARK

Read: Report dated 14 January 2019 from Mr Andy Patterson, Assistant Director Tourism, Culture and Events regarding Trading Pitch at Slieve Gullion Forest Park. **(Copy circulated).**

ERT/015/2019: IMMERSIVE TECHNOLOGY FUND – NARNIA PROJECT AT KILBRONEY PARK

Read: Report dated 14 January 2019 from Mr Andy Patterson, Assistant Director Tourism, Culture and Events regarding Immersive Technology Fund – Narnia Project at Kilbroney Park. **(Copy circulated).**

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

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

ERT/014/2019 – Trading Pitch at Slieve Gullion Forest Park

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Mulgrew seconded by Councillor Clarke it was agreed to proceed with the tendering of a trading pitch for the provision of one mobile ice cream vendor at the Upper car park of Slieve Gullion Forest Park for a period of up to three years, with the lease to be reviewed annually.

ERT/015/2019 – Immersive Technology Fund – Narnia Project at Kilbroney Park

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor McAteer seconded by Councillor McMahon it was agreed that approval be given to proceed to undertake necessary procurement exercises to deliver the Narnia AV/VR project subject to funding of £150,000 from TNI and £150,000 from Council. Council contribution agreed at November ERT Committee.

There being no further business the meeting concluded at 3.55pm.

For adoption at the Council Meeting to be held on 4 February 2019.

Signed: _____
Councillor M Ruane
Chairperson of Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Committee

Signed: _____
Ms M Ward
Director of Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Committee