

Minutes of the Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism Committee held on 12 September 2016 were ratified at the Council meeting held on 3 October 2016 subject to the amendment below:

C/176/2016 **MINUTES OF ENTERPRISE, REGENERATION AND TOURISM COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 12 SEPTEMBER 2016**

Read: Minutes of Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism Committee Meeting held on 12 September 2016 (copy circulated)

ERT/131/2016 – Warrenpoint Baths

Councillor Carr said he welcomed the fact that planning permission for the Warrenpoint Baths would soon be considered and he said it was important the project was shovel ready. Councillor Carr said he concurred with comments made by Councillor D McAteer at the Committee meeting in relation to people's desire for the provision of a bathing/water facility in Warrenpoint. He said Council should examine the need for a swimming facility which would enhance the tourism potential of Warrenpoint and requested this be included as one of the options in the options paper, following the outcome of the Warrenpoint Baths planning process.

A discussion ensued and Mr Hannaway said Council had funded work to date on the Warrenpoint Baths. He said any additional sporting facilities would have to form part of Council's overall Sports Development Strategy. He clarified that Heritage Lottery Funding provided funding for a different type of development, and involved keeping buildings traditional.

Councillor D McAteer said the DEA Councillors had not been consulted by the Heritage Lottery Fund and he wished to keep the project alive for potential Heritage Lottery funding. He referred to the District being a primary tourist area in Ireland, saying this project would drive tourism in Warrenpoint.

Councillor W Clarke referred to a number of large Heritage Lottery Funded projects underway in the District, saying a new planning application would need to be made to apply for Heritage Lottery Funding.

AGREED: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Carr, seconded by Councillor D McAteer, that Warrenpoint Baths be discussed at the October meeting of ERT Committee under Option 3 – Refurbish the existing building and discussed in relation to the Sports Development Strategy.

NEWRY MOURNE AND DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of the Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism Committee Meeting held on Monday 12 September 2016 at 5.00pm in the Boardroom, District Council Offices, Monaghan Row, Newry

Chairperson: Councillor R Burgess

In Attendance: **(Committee Members)** Councillor T

Andrews Councillor N
Baillie Councillor W Clarke
Councillor G Hanna
Councillor H Harvey
Councillor T Hearty
Councillor D McAteer
Councillor B Quinn
Councillor M Ruane
Councillor G Stokes
Councillor J Tinnelly

Officials in Attendance: Mr L Hannaway Chief Executive
Ms M Ward Director Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism
Mr J McGilly Assistant Director ERT
Mr M Mohan Senior Tourism Initiatives Manager
Ms L Dillon Democratic Services Officer

ERT/128/2016: AP OLOG IES AND CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

The following apology was received:

Councillor D Curran

ERT/129/2016: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received

**ERT/130/2016: ACTION SHEET
MINUTES OF ENTERPRISE REGENERATION &
TOURISM COMMITTEE MEETING
MONDAY 8 AUGUST 2016**

Read: Action Sheet arising out of the Minutes of the Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism Committee Meeting held on Monday 8 August 2016.
(Copy circulated)

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Andrews seconded by Councillor Hanna it was agreed to note the Action Sheet arising out of the Minutes of the Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism Committee Meeting held on Monday 8 August 2016.

ENTERPRISE, EMPLOYMENT & REGENERATION

ERT/131/2016: WARRENPOINT BATHS

Read: Report dated 12 September 2016 from Mr M Patterson, Enterprise Development Officer regarding an update on Warrenpoint Baths.
(Copy circulated)

Councillor McAteer expressed his disappointment that the proposed plan for Warrenpoint Baths did not meet Heritage Lottery Fund criteria for possible funding and he suggested that before the Council proceed with this project, that all options should be explored that could keep the Heritage Lottery Fund on board regarding a project for Warrenpoint Baths including the possibility of amending the plans.

He also referred to the fact people had expressed sentiments for the provision of a bathing/water facility at Warrenpoint and he felt the Council should this option.

Mrs Ward explained that Heritage Lottery Fund looked for projects which are heritage based and would involve restoring a facility to its original use but that the proposal for Warrenpoint Baths was focused around commercial/mixed use entity.

She said that the provision of a swimming facility for Warrenpoint would fall under the remit of the Sports Facility Strategy for consideration by the Active & Healthy Communities Committee.

Councillor Ruane and Councillor W Clarke expressed their view regarding a project at Warrenpoint Baths and felt it was important to move forward with the Council's current proposals for this site.

Councillor Hanna proposed and Councillor Ruane seconded to approve the recommendations contained in Report dated 12 September 2016 from Mr M Patterson Enterprise Development Officer, that a further detailed options report be tabled at the ERT Committee Meeting following the outcome of the Warrenpoint Baths planning application process. This will include prioritisation and financial implications for options 1 and 2, as option 3 and 4 are seen at this stage as last resort options.

Councillor McAteer said he did not support the above decision and said the Council should amend the proposed plans for Warrenpoint Baths in order to keep Heritage Lottery Fund on board.

The proposal was put to a vote by way of a show of hands and voting was as follows:

For: 8
Against: 4

The proposal was declared carried.

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Hanna seconded by Councillor Ruane it was agreed to approve the recommendation contained in Report dated 12 September 2016 from Mr M Patterson Enterprise Development Officer, that a further detailed options report be tabled at the ERT Committee Meeting following the outcome of the Warrenpoint Baths planning application process. This will include prioritisation and financial implications for options 1 and 2, as option 3 and 4 are seen at this stage as last resort options.

AGREED: Tourism figures for 2015 and 2016 to be circulated to Members for information.

ERT/132/2016: FORKHILL GREENSPACE PROJECT

Read: Report dated 12 September 2016 from Mr J McGilly, Assistant Director of Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism regarding the Forkhill Green Space Scheme. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Harvey seconded by Councillor Andrews it was agreed the Council enter into and sign a Works Licence Agreement to allow for the longer term maintenance of the completed Forkhill Greenspace Project, as per Report dated 12 September 2016 from Mr J McGilly Assistant Director of Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism.

ERT/133/2016: CLANRYE RIVER & PUBLIC REALM CLEAN UP

Read: Report dated 12 September 2016 from Mr M Patterson, Assistant Director of Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism regarding the Clanrye River (City Sections) and Public Realm Clean Up. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Stokes seconded by Councillor Ruane it was agreed as follows, as per Report dated 12 September 2016 from Mr M Patterson Enterprise Development Officer:

- (a) Council request funding from Department for Communities (DFC) towards the 'Clean-up of the Clanrye River (City Sections)' and 'Washing of the Public Realm Urban Pathways'
- (b) Subject to successful Business Case being completed, accept/sign relevant Letters of Offer for both proposed projects and proceed to relevant procurement exercises to get the works completed.

AGREED: It was also agreed Officials examine if it is possible to extend arrangements for the clean up of the Clanyre River to other rivers in the District.

ERT/134/2016: KILKEEL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

Read: Report dated 12 September 2016 from Mr J McGilly Assistant Director of Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism regarding the Kilkeel Strategic Partnership. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Hanna seconded by Councillor Quinn it was agreed as follows as per Report dated 12 September 2016 from Mr J McGilly Assistant Director of Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism:

- (i) Newry Mourne & Down District Council to act as lead partner for this stage only to ensure project moves ahead. This will involve Newry Mourne & Down District Council signing an operating agreement with SIB on behalf of partners (Seasource/ISP, DAERA, NM&DDC and INI). Subject to KSP leading on lobby to ensure a government department sponsors this project beyond this phase and Council writing to relevant Ministers (DAERA and DfC) requesting this is given urgent priority and placing on record Newry Mourne & Down District Council's position on this matter.**
- (ii) Newry Mourne & Down District Council co fund this phase of the project in following way – 10% KSP/Seasource, 25% NMDDC, 65% DAERA and INI up to maximum of £50,000 total cost.**
- (iii) Newry Mourne & Down District Council work with SIB to finalise the operating agreement with SIB procuring direct any services required for this phase of the project, ie, experts to draft Terms of Reference, etc.**

On behalf of Councillor Curran, Councillor Burgess asked that Ardglass also be looked at in terms of an infrastructure project.

Mr McGilly said work would also include exploring other locations that could potentially house this facility including Ardglass.

ERT/135/2016: LETTING OF LANDS AT DELAMONT COUNTRY PARK

Read: Report dated 12 September 2015 from Ms M Ward, Director of Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism regarding the letting of lands at Delamont Country Park. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Hearty seconded by Councillor Harvey it was agreed as per Report dated 12 September 2016 from Ms M Ward Director of Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism, that the Council proceed to seek expressions of interest for 1 No. lot 30.34 hectares for sheep grazing/arable, with an indicative value of £100.00 per/acre and accept the offer of the highest value (as per decision by SMT Meeting – SMT/246/2016. Expressions of interest to be sought in October 2016 for the five year period 01 April 2017 to 01 October 2021.

ERT/136/2016: NEWRY TOWN HALL – SCHEDULE OF WORKS

Read: Report dated 12 September 2015 from Ms J Turley Facilities Administrator regarding a meeting with user groups regarding a schedule of works in respect of Newry Town Hall. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Stokes seconded by Councillor Andrews it was agreed as follows, as per Report dated 12 September 2016 from Ms J Turley Facilities Administrator, regarding Newry Town Hall Schedule of works:

- (1) To close Newry Town Hall for Main Hall bookings from 15 May – 15 September 2017.**
- (2) Mood Boards be produced to inform all groups and others of progress of works.**
- (3) Meeting be convened at later date with Director of ERT, User groups and Theatre Consultant to inform them of proposed works.**
- (4) Consultation process to begin in Autumn with Arts Groups/relevant bodies for Audience Development Strategy.**

ERT/137/2016: NEWRY TOWN CENTRE BID

Read: Report dated 12 September 2015 from Mr J McGilly, Assistant Director of Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism regarding Memorandum of Understanding between Newry, Mourne and Down District Council and Department of Communities regarding Newry City Centre Bid.

(Copy circulated)

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Stokes seconded by Councillor McAteer it was agreed Newry Mourne and Down District Council sign the Memorandum of Understanding with the Department of Communities in respect of Newry Town Centre BID and draw down funding as required, as per Report dated 12 September 2016 from Mr J McGilly Assistant Director of Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism.

AGREED: A letter of thanks and best wishes be sent to the former Chief Executive of BID.

TOURISM CULTURE & EVENTS ITEMS

ERT/138/2016: DOWN COUNTY MUSEUM

Read: Report dated September 2016 from Mr M King, Museum Curator regarding Museum opening times for Down County Museum. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Burgess seconded by Councillor Bailie it was agreed as follows, as recommended in Report dated September 2016, from Mr M King Museum Curator (Down County Museum) regarding opening times for Down County Museum, with effect from 1 October 2016:

- (a) Opening times for Down County Museum be changed to those already in place at Newry Museum, ie, Mon-Sat 10am to 4.30pm, Sun 1.30pm to 5pm.**
- (b) No reduction in Cathedral View Tea Rooms opening hours – Tearoom opening on Saturday mornings can be arranged.**
- (c) Booked room and tour bookings extending beyond 4.30pm can still be accommodated from Monday to Saturday as Museum staff will still be available to manage these bookings until 5pm.**

ERT/139/2016: GREEN TOURISM

Read: Report dated 12 September 2016 from Mr M Mahon, Senior Tourism Initiatives Manager regarding Green Tourism – top 100 Green destinations in Europe. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Andrews seconded by Councillor McAteer it was agreed to approve the appointment of 5 No. delegates/destination ambassadors to attend the Global Green Destinations Conference and Gala Dinner on 27 September 2016 in Ljubljana Slovenia.

ERT/140/2016: INVITATION – TOURISM NI BOARD TO VISIT NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN DISTRICT

Mrs Ward explained that with the development of a Tourism Strategy it would be beneficial to invite the Board of Tourism NI to the District.

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Harvey seconded by Councillor Andrews it was agreed to extend an invitation to the Board of Tourism NI to the Newry Mourne and Down District.

The trip will be held potentially over a 2 day period and a full programme will be tabled at a Meeting of the Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Committee for consideration.

ITEMS TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION

ERT/141/2016: PURCHASE OF LANDS AT SLIEVE GULLION

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Hanna seconded by Councillor Hearty 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).

Read: Report dated 22 August 2016 from Ms M Boyle Tourism Development Officer regarding the purchase of 4.33 acres of land at Slieve Gullion Forest Park. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Hanna seconded by Councillor Hearty 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 Hearty seconded by Councillor Harvey to approve the recommendation as follows, as contained in Report dated 22 August 2016 from Ms M Boyle Tourism Development Officer:

- (a) **The Council proceed to purchase 4.33 acres of land at Slieve Gullion Forest Park subject to obtaining Planning permission for car parking.**
- (b) **To proceed with detailed design and submission of Planning Application for new car parking at Slieve Gullion Forest Park and to secure the services of external design services as required.**

FOR NOTING

ERT/142/2016: CAMLOUGH LAKE REHABILITATION CONTRACT & FUTURE DEVELOPMENT

Read: Report dated 26 August 2016 from Ms M Boyle, Tourism Development Officer regarding Camlough Lake Rehabilitation Contract and future Development at Camlough Lake. **(Copy enclosed)**

Agreed: **It was agreed to note the following update regarding Camlough Lake Rehabilitation Contract and Future Development, as per Report dated 26 August 2016 from Ms M Boyle Tourism Development Officer:**

- (1) To note update on contract progress**
- (2) To accept revised vesting map as per attached drawing with additional lands.**
- (3) To note update on vesting timescale, procedure for vesting and funding opportunities for future development.**
- (4) Mr D Murphy to liaise with contract supervisor on site to identify boulders along fisherman walks that would be beneficial to have removed in achievable.**
- (5) Council Officials to liaise with groups involved in signage at the slipway to determine if they can be relocated to be displayed on the containers.**
- (6) Option 3 Figure 10 preferred option from the Masterplan to strive for in future development.**

ERT/143/2016: TOURISM STRATEGY WORKSHOPS

Read: Newry, Mourne & Down Action Planning Workshops and Drop in discussions September 2016. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: **It was agreed to note the Tourism Strategy Workshops for Newry**

**Mourne & Down – Action Planning Workshop and Drop in Discussions
– September 2016.**

ERT/144/2016: NI ECONOMIC STRATEGY

Read: Report dated 12 September 2016 from Mr M Patterson, Enterprise Development Officer regarding the Northern Ireland Economic Strategy – call for evidence response. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: **It was agreed to note Report dated 12 September from Mr M Patterson, Enterprise Development Officer regarding the Northern Ireland Economic Strategy – call for evidence response, subject to any additional comments from Members.**

ERT/145/2016: CONGRATULATIONS – FESTIVALS/EVENTS 2016

Councillor Ruane extended congratulations to Council staff were involved in the organisation and running of the Wake the Giant Festival in Warrenpoint which was a huge success.

Councillor Stokes referred to the last 3 festivals held in Newry which were Council supported events and which were a massive success, ie, Iur Cinn Fleadh, Pride Festival and Water & Triathlon Festival.

Several Members concurred with the previous comments and extended their thanks to all Council staff involved in the organising and assisting with the many events held across the District

Noted: It was noted a meeting would be convened in October 2016 to discuss events for 2017.

The Meeting concluded at 5.50pm.

For consideration at the Council Meeting to be held on Monday 3 October 2016.

Signed: **Councillor R Burgess**
Chairperson

Signed: **Ms M Ward**
Director of Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism