

## NEWRY, MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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**Minutes of the Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism Committee Meeting held on  
Monday 12 February 2018 at 5.00pm in the Boardroom, District Council  
Offices, Monaghan Row, Newry**

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**Chairperson:** Councillor P Byrne

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

Councillor R Burgess  
Councillor M Carr  
Councillor C Casey  
Councillor W Clarke  
Councillor D Curran  
Councillor G Hanna  
Councillor H Harvey  
Councillor T Hearty  
Councillor D Hyland  
Councillor D McAteer  
Councillor O McMahon  
Councillor B Quinn  
Councillor M Ruane  
Councillor G Stokes

**Officials**

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

**Also in Attendance:** Councillor A McMurray  
Mr J McGrillen, Tourism NI  
Ms R McHugh, Tourism NI

**ERT/022/2018: APOLOGIES / CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS**

No apologies were received.

**ERT/023/2018:     DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Hanna declared an interest in Item No. 15 – Lease of office at Warrenpoint Town Hall.

**FOR DISCUSSION/DECISION**

**ERT/024/2018:     ACTION SHEET MINUTES OF ENTERPRISE, REGENERATION & TOURISM COMMITTEE MEETING MONDAY 15 JANUARY 2018**

Read:           Action Sheet arising out of the Minutes of the Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism Committee Meeting held on Monday 15 January 2018.  
**(Copy circulated)**

Agreed:        **On the proposal of Councillor Hyland seconded by Councillor Curran it was agreed to note the Action Sheet arising out of the Minutes of the Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism Committee Meeting held on Monday 15 January 2018.**

**ERT/025/2018:     PRESENTATION FROM TOURISM NI ON TOURISM PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT MARKET RESEARCH**

The Chairperson welcomed Mr John McGrillen and Ms Rosemary McHugh from Tourism NI and asked Mrs Ward to brief the Committee on the presentation. Mrs Ward stated Tourism NI had been invited to the Committee Meeting to deliver a Tourism Innovation Screener Research presentation which would provide an overview of market research that had been conducted.

Following the presentation there was a question and answer session and the following points were raised:

- The Tourism Innovation Screener Research was a development tool that used online innovation testing methodology, it was consumer focused and used to identify concepts that would influence travel and had the most consumer appeal.
- The research would look at packaging smaller tourism related products together to create a bigger and better experience for the consumer, it could also include looking at cross- council propositions.
- The research would identify those areas with the best potential and would drive tourism beyond the key areas of Belfast, Derry and the Giant's Causeway.

- Landscape, heritage and culture were all areas that had already been identified as tourism drivers.
- Invest NI was the body responsible for promoting the provision of tourism accommodation.
- The current accommodation offering in the district was not adequate and was something that needed to be addressed.
- The close proximity of Dublin to Newry should be capitalised on in terms of directing tourists to the area when they arrived in Dublin.

There followed a short video from Tourism NI. Ms McHugh advised that this video had reached over one quarter of a million people. Mrs Ward advised that Naomi Waite, Marketing Director of Tourism NI would be in attendance at the March ERT Committee Meeting to discuss the commencement of a journey working with the ROI market.

Councillor Ruane commented that the video featured Kilkeel and Castlewellan and didn't include Warrepoint or Rostrevor. Mrs Ward agreed with this and said a video was being prepared in-house that would promote the entire district.

## **ENTERPRISE, EMPLOYMENT & REGENERATION**

### **ERT/026/2018: TOURISM PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT**

**Read:** Report dated 12 February 2018 from Andy Patterson, Assistant Director of Tourism, Culture and Events regarding Tourism Product Development. (Copy circulated)

**Agreed:** **On the proposal of Councillor Stokes seconded by Councillor Clarke it was agreed to consider and approve the recommendation to undertake research, in partnership with Tourism NI, to test the international market demand for new and existing tourism products and experiences.**

### **ERT/027/2018: CITY DEAL – FUTURE CITIES CATAPULT**

**Read:** Report dated 12 February 2018 from Liam Hannaway, Chief Executive regarding Belfast Region City Deal: Digital Infrastructure Strategy. (**Copy circulated**)

**Agreed:** **On the proposal of Councillor Stokes seconded by Councillor Clarke it was agreed to note content of report and approve contribution of £19,000 towards the completion of a Digital Infrastructure Strategy for the City Deal Region, the total cost for the Strategy is being contributed to by the**

six councils on the basis of EEP.

**ERT/028/2018: ERDF/INI LETTER OF OFFER FOR A BUSINESS GROWTH MENTORING PROGRAMME**

**Read:** Report dated 12 February 2018 from Mr Jonathan McGilly, Assistant Director Enterprise, Employment & Regeneration regarding ERDF/INI Letter of Offer for a Business Growth Mentoring Programme. **(Copy circulated)**

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

- **Following review of the LoO Terms and Conditions to approve the acceptance of the Letter of Offer received from Invest NI for delivery of a 5 year Business Growth Mentoring programme, supported through ERDF funding. Match funding contribution required by Council is 20% of the total costs, which is £95,000 over a 5 year period.**
- **Proceed as per LoO requirements, to work with CPD to procure and appoint a suitable delivery agent.**

**ERT/029/2018: CASTLEWELLAN FOREST PARK REPORT**

**Read:** Report dated 12 February 2018 from Jonathan McGilly, Assistant Director Enterprise, Employment & Regeneration regarding Castlewellan Forest Park Task and Finish Project Board. **(Copy circulated).**

It was noted Recommendation No. 2 contained in the Castlewellan Forest Park Task and Finish Project Board report dated 12 February 2018 regarding Council match funding should read £100,000 as opposed to £1000,000.

**Agreed:** **On the proposal of Councillor Hanna seconded by Councillor Ruane the following was agreed:**

1. **To submit an application to the DAREA Rural Tourism Scheme in respect of funding in the region of £500,000 in respect of Castlewellan Forest Park. Council will be required to commit match funding in the region of £167,000 (25%). The application is inclusive of a Technical Assistance Grant in the region of £50,000. (EOI submission February 2018.)**
2. **To submit a formal project enquiry to Heritage Lottery Fund followed by a full application in Summer 2018 requesting funding of £1000,000. Council commit to match funding this request with £100,000.**
3. **To procure the necessary services and contracts –**

inclusive of Economic Appraisal, Business Plan, Multi-disciplinary Design Team and Contractors in accordance with the applicable funding guidance. Appointments in respect of construction contracts subject to successful award of funding.

4. To submit applications for Statutory Approvals ie Planning, Building Control and NIEA if required.
5. To procure a facilitator for the purposes of consultation required for the project development.
6. Castlewellan Forest Park Task & Finish Project Board report dated 12 February 2018 to be amended to read £100,000 as opposed to £1,000,000.

**ERT/030/2018**

**NEWRY LOWER HILL STREET PUBLIC REALM SCHEME**

Read: Report dated 12 February 2018 from Jonathan McGilly, Assistant Director Enterprise, Employment & Regeneration regarding Commencement of procurement for the Newry Lower Hill Street Public Realm Scheme. **(Copy circulated)**

Councillor Casey referred to a plaque commemorating 3 men who had been killed during the troubles that had been removed from Hill Street and asked where this plaque now was.

Mrs Ward replied that she was unable to provide an answer at this time but would endeavour to find out .

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Hyland seconded by Councillor Stokes it was agreed to:

1. Approve the Newry Lower Hill Street Public Realm Scheme, to proceed to procurement of an Integrated Consultancy Team (ICT). If within Budget, proceed to appointment.
2. Council establish a relevant Task and Finish Working Group for the Design and Delivery (Subject to DFC funding) of the Newry Lower Hill Street Public Realm Scheme.
3. Locate the whereabouts of a plaque that had been removed from Hill Street commemorating 3 men who had been killed during the troubles.

**ERT/031/2018:**

**LPWAN REPORT**

Read: Report dated 12 February 2018 from Jonathan McGilly, Assistant Director Enterprise, Employment and Regeneration regarding LPWAN Report. **(Copy circulated)**

Councillor Carr requested that more detailed information on this initiative be sent to Committee Members.

Councillor Quinn referred to Item 2 of the report which outlined the proposed base stations and said he would have preferred that Kilkeel had been included in the proposed locations rather than being referred to as 'may' be an option. This comment was 'Noted'.

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor McAteer seconded by Councillor Carr, the following was agreed:

1. Allow installation of Gateways in strategic locations identified by University of Ulster. Sites have been specifically chosen as they have large population, contain clusters of SMEs and are locations of specific need e.g. proximity to industrial sites, ports, major retail, manufacture, border and tourism challenges.
2. Allow Officers to work with University of Ulster and Invest NI to build promotional materials targeted specifically at local businesses;
3. Run an Introduction to IOT workshop for Micro and Small SME's targeted at non-technical businesses to highlight and explore the benefits and opportunities the project may bring offer.
4. Assist with identification and application for funding to take business ideas further through Knowledge Transfer Partnership, Innovation Vouchers or similar challenge funds with support from SRC and SERC.
5. Detailed information regarding the LPWAN to be circulated to Committee Members.

**ERT/032/2018**      **INNOVATION CONFERENCE**

Read: Report dated 12 February 2018 from Marie Ward, Director Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism regarding Innovation Conference. **(Copy circulated).**

Mrs Ward said both the education sector and all businesses in the district would be contacted with regard to participating in this conference and it would not proceed without confirmation of the support of the private sector.

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Hyland seconded by Councillor McAteer it was agreed to approve delivery of an Innovation Conference in Newry City in 2018 and appointment of delivery agent.

**ERT/033/2018**      **N.I. AGRI-BUSINESS CONFERENCE**

**Read:**                      Report dated 12 February 2018 from Jonathan McGilly, Assistant Director Enterprise, Employment and Regeneration regarding the N.I. Agri-Business Conference. **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:**                      **On the proposal of Councillor Hanna seconded by Councillor Curran it was agreed that Councillor Harvey attend the N.I. Agri-Business Conference in Craigavon Civic Centre on Thursday 15 February at a cost of £195 + VAT.**

**TOURISM, CULTURE & EVENTS ITEMS**

**ERT/034/2018:**      **CRUISE – ATTENDANCE AT FLORIDA TRADE SHOW**

**Read:**                      Report dated 12 February 2018 from Andy Patterson, Assistant Director of Tourism, Culture and Events regarding Seatrade Cruise Operator Events 2018. **(Copy circulated)**

Councillor McAteer asked if there were any proven benefits to sending a Council representative to this trade show. Mrs Ward replied that this was an opportunity to sell our district and was being supported by Warrenpoint Harbour Authority.

**Agreed:**                      **On the proposal of Councillor McAteer seconded by Councillor Harvey it was agreed to consider and approve the recommendation that a Council Official will attend the Seatrade Cruise Global Event in Fort Lauderdale, Cruise Europe Conference in St Petersburg and Seatrade Med, Lisbon in partnership with Warrenpoint Harbour Authority.**

**ERT/035/2018**      **PRODUCTION SERVICES**

**Read:**                      Report dated 12 February 2018 from Andy Patterson, Assistant Director of Tourism, Culture and Events regarding Tourism Event Production Services. **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:**                      **On the proposal of Councillor Hanna seconded by Councillor McAteer it was agreed consider and approve the recommendation to tender and appoint suppliers of Event Production Services for the 2018/19 Tourism Events Programme.**

## **FOR NOTING**

### **ERT/036/2018: DOWN COUNTY MUSEUM – PEACE FUNDING**

**Read:** Report dated 12 February 2018 from Andy Patterson, Assistant Director Tourism, Culture and Events regarding Museum PEAVE IV Cross-Community Projects. **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** **On the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor Burgess, it was agreed to note the Down County Museum – Peace Funding report.**

### **ERT/037/2018: SCHEME OF DELGATION**

**Read:** Scheme of Delegation report for ERT from April 2017 to end March 2018. **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** **On the proposal of Councillor Ruane seconded by Councillor Burgess it was agreed to note the Scheme of Delegation report for ERT from April 2017 to end March 2018.**

### **ERT/038/2018: ACTION TRACKER UPDATE SHEET**

**Read:** Action Tracker Update including December ERT 2017. **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** **On the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor Burgess, it was agreed the Action Tracker Update Sheet be noted.**

## **ITEMS TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION**

**Agreed:** **On the proposal of Councillor Hanna seconded by Councillor Ruane 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/039/2018      LEASE OF OFFICE AT WARRENPOINT TOWN HALL**

**Read:** Report dated 12 February 2018 from Marie Ward, Director, Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism regarding Warrenpoint Town Hall – Lease of small office to Warrenpoint Chamber of Commerce. (Copy circulated)

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Hanna seconded by Councillor Ruane it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.

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

On the proposal of Councillor McAteer seconded by Councillor Ruane it was agreed in order to regularise the situation and in light of the Assets Management Review recommend that the Committee agree Council enter in to a 3 year lease agreement at a rental of £650 per annum (as assessed by LPS) subject to completion of all legal formalities.

There being no further business the meeting concluded at 6.50 PM

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Councillor P Byrne**  
**Chairperson of Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Committee**

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