

## **NEWRY, MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL**

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**Minutes of the Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism Committee Meeting held on Monday 13 November 2017 at 3.00pm in the Boardroom, District Council Offices, Monaghan Row, Newry**

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**Chairperson:** Councillor P Byrne

**Vice Chairperson:** Councillor D Hyland

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

Councillor R Burgess  
Councillor C Casey  
Councillor W Clarke  
Councillor G Hanna  
Councillor H Harvey  
Councillor M Carr  
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 J McGilly Asst. Director, Enterprise Employment & Regeneration  
Mr A Patterson Asst. Director, Tourism Culture & Events  
Mr M Mohan Senior Tourism Initiative Manager  
Ms P McKeever Democratic Services Officer

### **ERT/192/2017: APOLOGIES / CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS**

The following apology was received:

Councillor D Curran

### **ERT/193/2017: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were received.

## **FOR DISCUSSION/DECISION**

### **ERT/194/2017: ACTION SHEET MINUTES OF ENTERPRISE, REGENERATION & TOURISM COMMITTEE MEETING MONDAY 9 OCTOBER 2017**

**Read:** Action Sheet arising out of the Minutes of the Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism Committee Meeting held on Monday 9 October 2017. **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** **On the proposal of Councillor Hanna, seconded by Councillor Quinn it was agreed to note the Action Sheet arising out of the Minutes of the Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism Committee Meeting held on Monday 9 October 2017.**

## **ENTERPRISE, EMPLOYMENT & REGENERATION**

### **ERT/195/2017: LOW POWERED WIDE AREA NETWORK (LPWAN) UPDATE**

**Read:** Report dated 13 November 2017 from Jonathan McGilly regarding Regional bid to Digital Catapult for LPWAN **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** **On the proposal of Councillor Hanna seconded by Councillor Burgess it was agreed as follows as per report dated 13 November 2017 from Mr J McGilly regarding Greenway Development Project**

- 1. The application to The Digital Catapult was successful;**
- 2. Recommendation to allow officers within ERT to work with University of Ulster and Invest NI to identify possible locations within the district to site the LPWAN base stations;**

### **ERT/196/2017: CASTLEWELLAN FOREST PARK TASK & FINISH PROJECT BOARD**

**Read:** Report dated 13 November 2017 from Jonathan McGilly regarding Castlewellan Forest Park Task and Finish Project Board **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** **On the proposal of Councillor Burgess seconded by Councillor Ruane it was agreed as follows as per report dated 13 November 2017 from Mr J McGilly regarding Castlewellan Forest Park Task and Finish Project Board**

- 1. To include budget in next financial year (subject to rates) in respect of additional work required and match funding to accompany application submission in 2018. £100,000 has been previously allocated in the current financial year**

**Capital Budget. An uplift of £50,000 is now being sought.**

**ERT/197/2017: SILVERY LIGHT PROJECT**

Read: Report dated 13 November 2017 from Jonathan McGilly regarding the Silvery Light Project (**copy circulated**)

In response to queries from Members regarding the level of support offered to the Silvery Light Trust by NMDDC, Mrs Ward advised that while NMDDC would not be offering funding to this project, the Newry DEA Officer had been working the Trust and Heritage Lottery Fund in an advisory capacity.

**Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Hanna seconded by Councillor Casey it was agreed as follows as per report dated 13 November 2017 from Jonathan McGilly regarding the Silvery Light Project that Newry, Mourne and Down district Council:**

- 1. Provide additional letters of support as required by potential funders**
- 2. The Silvery Light Trust consider making application to the Councils Financial Assistance Programme via the Programmes Unit.**

**ERT/198/2017 Belfast to Dublin High Speed Rail – Pre-feasibility Study**

Read: Report dated 13 November 2017 from Liam Hannaway regarding the Belfast to Dublin High Speed Rail – Pre-feasibility Study (**copy circulated**)

**Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Stokes seconded by Councillor McAteer, it was agreed as follows as per report dated 13 November 2017 from Mr Hannaway regarding the Belfast to Dublin High Speed Rail – Pre-feasibility Study that the Council participate in the development of the pre-feasibility study and contribute to funding the project. Belfast City Council, Louth County Council and Fingal County Council have already committed.**

**TOURISM, CULTURE & EVENTS**

**ERT/199/2017: 2018/19 TOURISM EVENTS PROGRAMME**

Read: Report dated 13 November 2017 from Andy Patterson regarding the 2018/19 Tourism Events Programme

Discussion took place and the following points were raised:

- Governance and transparency from an audit perspective was paramount

- The budget of £20k for the 'Down to the Races' four day summer festival was for NMDDC to host its own event on the back of this summer festival
- The Events programme was an evolving one and was reviewed annually
- Rates Workshops for Tourism Events had been scheduled to which Members had been invited to discuss proposed events
- Concern that smaller festivals would be excluded from the Open Funding Call
- Economic impact from each festival for 2017 to be made available to Members

**Agreed:** **On the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor Clarke, it was agreed as follows as per report dated 13 November 2017 from Andy Patterson regarding the 2018/2019 Tourism Events Programme**

- 1. Approval of the schedule of Tourism Events subject to the budget process for 2018/19**
- 2. A further workshop to be held on the Open Funding Call for 2018/19 and present this part to the ERT Committee in December 2018**
- 3. The economic impact from each festival for 2017 to be made available to Members**

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

**For: 9**  
**Against: 3**  
**Abstentions: 1**

**ERT/200/2017 VISITOR EXPERIENCE PLAN FRAMEWORK**

**Read:** Report dated 13 November 2017 from Andy Patterson regarding the Visitor Experience Plan Framework

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

- 1. To accept the Visitor Experience Plan Framework**
- 2. The key recommendations in enabling success and delivering world class experiences are:**

<b>Actions</b>	<b>Timelines</b>
<b>Designation of Unesco Global Geopark</b>	<b>September 17 – November 19</b>
<b>Establish 4 -5 Cluster groups and develop a pilot programme</b>	<b>November 17 – April 18</b>

of market ready experience by Spring 2018	
Tender and Implement a pilot mentorship programme initially with the 4-5 cluster groups	November 17 – April 18
Strengthening training of guides and ambassadors	January 18 – ongoing
Expanding Awareness on Experience Development	November 17 – ongoing
Tourism Forum established	Ongoing
Implement Experience Development workshops on completion of the pilot	April 18 – onwards
Advanced catalyst project identified in the Tourism Strategy	Ongoing
Working with partners to strengthen 'pride of place'	Ongoing
Working with partners to assess waymarking and signage	November 17 – September 18
Continuing to promote respect for the natural and cultural heritage	Ongoing
Coordinate a 'visitor code of conduct'	January – June 18
Connecting with relevant international initiatives	Ongoing

**ERT/201/2017**

**SUPPORT FOR EUROPEAN CAPITAL OF CULTURE 2023 BID**

Read:

Report dated 13 November 2017 from Andy Patterson regarding

Support for European Capital of Culture 2023 Bid

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Stokes seconded by Councillor Burgess it was agreed as follows as per report dated 13 November 2017 from Andy Patterson regarding Support for European Capital of Culture 2023 Bid to confirm Newry, Mourne and Down District Council's support in principle of the bid for the title of European Capital of Culture in 2023.

**ITEMS TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION**

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Burgess seconded by Councillor McAteer 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/202/2017** **PURCHASE OF LAND AT SLIEVE GULLION FOREST PARK – ADDITIONAL CAR PARKING**

**Read:** Report dated 13 November 2017 from Andy Patterson regarding Purchase of land at Slieve Gullion Forest Park – additional car parking

**ERT/203/2017** **SLIEVE GULLION FOREST PARK – APPOINTMENT OF CONTRACTOR FOR AMENITY BUILDING**

**Read:** Report dated 13 November 2017 from Andy Patterson regarding Slieve Gullion Forest Park – Appointment of contractor for Amenity Building

Discussion took place and the following points were raised:

- All costs had been verified by QS
- The appointment process had been conducted via the Council's E-procurement system
- The contract for the appointment of a contractor had not yet been awarded

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Ruane seconded by Councillor Stokes 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:**

**Purchase of land at Slieve Gullion Forest Park – additional car parking**

**On the proposal of Councillor Ruane seconded by Councillor Clarke it was agreed as follows as per report dated 13 November 2017 from Andy Patterson regarding Purchase of land at Slieve Gullion Forest Park – additional car parking - Council to purchase lands 110m x 8m situated on an agricultural field at Slieve Gullion Forest Park, which fronts on to Wood Road, almost opposite the existing car park. The valuation agreed with LPS is £15,000, plus the landowners costs. To proceed to purchase subject to obtaining planning permission for car parking.**

**Slieve Gullion Forest Park – Appointment of contractor for Amenity Building**

**On the proposal of Councillor Hyland seconded by Councillor Ruane it was agreed as follows as per report dated 13 November 2017 from Andy Patterson regarding Slieve gullion Forest Park – Appointment of contractor for Amenity Building**

- 1. To appoint the preferred supplier to undertake the new amenity building at Slieve Gullion Forest Park at cost of £403,620.27 which is £100,000 over the original projected costs.**
- 2. To progress with provision of a treatment plant for the amenity building and report back to Council on costs.**

**FOR NOTING**

**It was agreed to 'note' the following reports:**

**ERT/204/2017: SOCIAL ENTERPRISE REPORT**

**Read:** Report dated 13 November 2017 from Jonathan McGilly regarding the Update on the Social Enterprise Programme (phase 11) **(copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** **On the proposal of Councillor Stokes seconded by Councillor Hyland it was agreed to note the report dated 13 November 2017 from Jonathan McGilly regarding the Update on the Social Enterprise Programme (phase 11)**

**ERT/205/2017: UPDATE ON EUROPEAN SOCIAL FUND NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL PARTNERSHIP FUNDED PROGRAMMES**

Read: Report dated 13 November 2017 from Jonathan McGilly regarding the Update of European Social Fund (ESF) Newry, Mourne and Down District Council partnership funded programmes **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Stokes seconded by Councillor Hyland it was agreed to note the report dated 13 November 2017 from Jonathan McGilly regarding the Update of European Social Fund (ESF) Newry, Mourne and Down District Council partnership funded programmes**

**ERT/206/2017: NI BUSINESS START UP PROGRAMME: UPDATE**

Read: Report dated 13 November 2017 from Marie Ward regarding the NI Business Start Up Programme: Update.

**Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Ruane seconded by Councillor Stokes it was agreed to note the report dated 13 November 2017 from Marie Ward regarding the NI Business Start Up Programme: Update.**

**ERT/207/2017: ACTION TRACKER UPDATE SHEET**

Read: ERT Action Tracker Sheet **(copy circulated)**

**Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Ruane seconded by Councillor Stokes it was agreed to note the ERT Action Tracker Sheet**

**ERT/208/2017: SCHEME OF DELEGATION**

Read: Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Scheme of Delegation **(copy circulated)**

**Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Ruane seconded by Councillor Casey it was agreed to note the Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Scheme of Delegation.**

There being no further business the meeting concluded at 4.20 pm.

These minutes are being circulated in accordance with Standing Orders and will be tabled for adoption at the Council Meeting to be held on Monday 4 December 2017.

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

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