

**NEWRY, MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL**

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**Minutes of the Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism Committee Meeting held on  
Monday 14 August 2017 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 C Casey  
Councillor W Clarke  
Councillor G Hanna  
Councillor D McAteer  
Councillor B Quinn  
Councillor M Ruane  
Councillor G Stokes

**(Non Members)**

Councillor P Brown  
Councillor C Enright  
Councillor J Trainor

**Officials in Attendance:** Ms M Ward Director of Enterprise, Regeneration  
& Tourism  
Mr A Patterson Assistant Director Tourism Culture & Events  
Ms L Dillon Democratic Services Officer

**ERT/128/2017: APOLOGIES / CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS**

The following apologies were received:

Councillor D Curran  
Councillor M Carr  
Councillor R Burgess  
Councillor H Harvey

The Chairperson, Councillor Byrne, extended congratulations to Council staff involved with the very successful Festival of Flight which was attended by over 100,000 people.

He referred to two more festivals which would be taking place, ie, Wake the Giant which would be held on 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> August 2017 and City of Merchants to be held on 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> September 2017 and he hoped these events would be successful.

**ERT/129/2017:     DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

**Councillor P Byrne** declared a pecuniary interest in the following Agenda Items:

Item 4 – Heritage Lottery Fund – Great Places Scheme (Ring of Gullion Partnership)

Item 5 – Sport NI Application – Regeneration of Derrymore Estate

Item 16 – Land at Slieve Gullion Forest Park (additional car parking)

**FOR DISCUSSION/DECISION**

**ERT/130/2017:     ACTION SHEET  
MINUTES OF ENTERPRISE, REGENERATION & TOURISM  
COMMITTEE MEETING  
MONDAY 12 JUNE 2017**

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Read:           Action Sheet arising out of the Minutes of the Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism Committee Meeting held on Monday 12 June 2017.  
**(Copy circulated)**

**AGREED:**     **On the proposal of Councillor Stokes seconded by Councillor Clarke, it was agreed to note the Action Sheet arising out of the Minutes of the Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism Committee Meeting held on Monday 12 June 2017.**

**ENTERPRISE, EMPLOYMENT & REGENERATION**

**ERT/131/2017:     HERITAGE LOTTERY FUND  
GREAT PLACES APPLICATION**

Read:           Report dated August 2017 from Ms T Hamill, Ring of Gullion AONB Officer, regarding Heritage Lottery Fund application for Great Places Scheme for Ring of Gullion AONB. **(Copy circulated)**

**AGREED:**     **On the proposal of Councillor McAteer seconded by Councillor Clarke, it was agreed as follows as per Report dated August 2017 from Ms T Hamill, Ring of Gullion AONB Officer, regarding Heritage Lottery Fund application for Great Places Scheme for Ring of Gullion AONB:**

- (a) The Council to act as a lead partner for this application and submit the preliminary application.**
- (b) To pursue all relevant funding opportunities to match fund the application, if it is successful to the final stage.**
- (c) Recommend the on-going support from other departments for the application.**
- (d) To incorporate match funding in 2018/19 Budgets.**

**ERT/132/2017: DERRYMORE SPORT NI APPLICATION**

**Read:** Report dated 16 August 2017 from Ms Amanda Smyth, Enterprise Development Officer, regarding the NI Sport Application for the Regeneration of Derrymore Estate and Camlough River Walk. **(Copy circulated)**

**AGREED:** On the proposal of Councillor Clarke seconded by Councillor Stokes it was agreed as follows, as per Report dated 16 August 2017 from Ms Amanda Smyth, Enterprise Development Officer, in respect of the NI Sport Application for the Regeneration of Derrymore Estate:

- (a) To progress Stage 2 Conditions of the Sport NI Application for the regeneration of Derrymore Estate and Camough River Walk. Conditions are as follows, and must be in place before Sport NI can consider an award of funding:**
- (b) Procurement of a design team for preparation of technical drawings and BoQ's (if a letter of offer is secured, costs incurred here can be allocated towards Council's match funding of the project)**
- (c) To secure Planning approval if required**
- (d) To secure Legal Agreement with National Trust for delivery of the project on their land (ie, Development Agreement – National Trust will retain long term maintenance of the trails)**
- (e) To secure PPA agreements with relevant landowners for delivery of the Camlough River Walk project.**
- (f) To procure a contractor. (Appointment only subject to securing a Letter of Offer)**

**ERT/133/2017: HORSE RIDING PROVISION  
CASTLEWELLAN FOREST PARK**

**Read:** Report dated 14 August 2017 from Ms H Wilson, Countryside Access Officer, regarding Strategic Review of Horse Riding Provision in Castlewellan Forest Park. **(Copy circulated)**

**AGREED:** On the proposal of Councillor Clarke seconded by Councillor Ruane it was agreed as follows as per Report dated 14 August 2017 from Ms H Wilson, Countryside Access Officer, regarding Strategic Review of Horse Riding Provision in Castlewellan Forest Park:

- (a) To adopt interim walking trails as permanent trail system for equestrians.**
- (b) To apply same permit principles for horse riders as mountain bikes.**
- (c) To create an interim trail head and car park.**

**ERT/134/2017: DEPARTMENT FOR COMMUNITIES  
FUNDING – REGENERATION PROJECTS**

Read: Report dated 14 August 2017 from Mr J McGilly, Assistant Director of Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism, regarding delay in Department of Communities funding for the following regeneration projects:

- Irish Street Public Realm Scheme
- Newry Cathedral Corridor Revitalisation Scheme
- Warrenpoint Revitalisation Scheme **(Copy circulated)**

**AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Byrne seconded by Councillor Stokes it was agreed as follows as per Report dated 14 August 2017 from Mr J McGilly, Assistant Director of Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism, regarding the delay in Department of Communities funding for regeneration projects:**

**(a) Council write to the Permanent Secretary for the Department for Communities regarding the following:**

- **To express the Council's concern at the on-going delay in Department for Communities funding for regeneration projects.**
- **To seek a meeting between Council Officials and the Permanent Secretary to discuss the on-going delay in funding and the Urban Regeneration Forward Work Plan and to request that when funding is agreed for the three schemes, that Letters of Offer should allow for an extension into the 2018/19 financial year for scheme completion and spend.**

**(b) Report back to the Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Committee Meeting in due course.**

**ERT/135/2017: NOTICE OF MOTION  
FARMERS/ARTISAN MARKET, DOWNPATRICK**

Read: Report dated 14 August 2017 from Ms M Quinn, Project Development Manager, regarding the following Notice of Motion put forward in the name of Councillor P Brown, which was deferred from the Council Meeting May 2017:  
**(Copy circulated)**  
**(Councillor P Brown was invited to be in attendance for discussion on this item)**

“That this Council recognises the positive impact local farmer and artisan markets can have on the local economy, particularly our tourism, small business and agri-food sectors. It also notes the success of the Newry Night Market and similar Farmers Markets in Comber. Council will consult with local food providers and prepare a business case on the viability of a monthly market in the traditional market town of Downpatrick.”

Councillor Brown presented the Notice of Motion and said that following some consultation and examination of the Comber Farmers Markets there appeared to be much support for a Farmers Market in the Down area with Newcastle being mentioned as a possible option for a spring/summer launch of such a market.

He suggested holding two tester markets in Downpatrick and Newcastle and based on how these markets performed, ascertain from the public and traders which would be the most suitable location to hold the market, with a third party then being identified to continue the future delivery of the market on a plan similar to that which the operation of the Comber Farmers Market is based on.

Several Members were in support of a Farmers Market in the Down area but stressed the need for a high profile launch and discussion with traders and also the introduction of other attractions of interest such as musical/busking entertainment.

It was also noted that before the Council would embark on introducing a Farmers Market that further market research and consultation was needed.

**AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Stokes seconded by Councillor Clarke it was agreed as follows, as per Report dated 14 August 2017 from Ms M Quinn, Project Development Manager, regarding a Notice of Motion regarding Farmers/Artisan Markets:**

- (a) A pilot project be undertaken in 2018/19 to include a market in Newcastle initially, and based on evaluation of the Newcastle Market, a trial Market could be held in Downpatrick to confirm the level of interest, thus providing an opportunity to assess the preferred location/s.**
- (b) If the pilot markets prove successful, the Council to appoint a company to deliver the Market/s on behalf of the Council.**
- (c) Following evaluation of the pilot markets, the Council to consider arranging Farmers Markets in other towns across the District.**

Councillor G Hanna indicated he was not in favour of the above decisions.

**ERT/136/2017: NOTICE OF MOTION  
MASTERPLANS**

Read: Report dated 14 August 2017 from Mr J McGilly, Assistant Director of Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism, regarding the following Notice of Motion put forward in the names of Councillors C Enright, J Trainor, D Curran and G Sharvin, which was deferred from the Council Meeting June 2017:

**(Copy circulated)**

**(Councillors Enright, Trainor, and Sharvin were invited to be in attendance for discussion on this item)**

“Council directs Management to resume the Downpatrick Masterplan Implementation Group as an inter-agency working group led by Downpatrick DEA Councillors, but open to any other Councillor whose area is likely to be impacted by the Masterplan. The Masterplan Implementation Working Group is essential for the development and progression of five work streams containing all the major projects envisaged in the Downpatrick area. It is also the Downpatrick DEAs draft submission to the Area Plan. The resumption of this Masterplan Implementation Working Group can act as a model for other areas across the Council.”

Councillor Enright presented the Notice of Motion and said the Motion had unanimous support across all of the Council’s DEAs. He suggested that Rowallane DEA Councillors should be the leading voice for a Masterplan for Ballynahinch with other DEA Councillors taking the same position in respect of a Masterplan for areas within their DEAs, which he added was a success of the Masterplans during the legacy Council as these were led by the DEA Councillors.

He expressed concern at the many projects that have disappeared from the Masterplans, in particular road infrastructure within Downpatrick and added there was complete consensus for the need for local control on the way in which the Masterplans are rolled out and local Councillors were best suited to lead these plans.

Councillor Trainor said it was vital that Masterplans were progressed. He referred to the complexity of Community Planning Structures and would welcome assurances that local DEA Councillors would have an input into Masterplans for their areas.

Ms Ward referred to engagement with Councillors regarding an action plan to progress Masterplans looking at how and what could be delivered up to 2019. She said that the Master Plans had not changed but that action plans had been put in place for the term of this Council. The actions plans update had been tabled at the ERT Committee Meeting in June 2017 and assured that DEA Councillors were not excluded from the process.

**AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Clarke seconded by Councillor Hanna it was agreed to proceed as follows regarding a Notice of Motion regarding Masterplans:**

**That given the Community Planning Structures and DEA Forums interaction with all the key agencies involved, the Council continue with it’s agreed course of action on Masterplans, as agreed in February 2017, and do not establish a Downpatrick Masterplan Implementation Group for the following reasons as outlined in Report dated 14 August 2017 from Mr J McGilly, Assistant Director of Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism.**

(5.30pm – Councillor J Trainor left the meeting)

**ERT/137/2017: NI ECONOMIC CONFERENCE**

**Read:** Correspondence regarding the Northern Ireland Economic Conference to be held on Wednesday 25 October 2017, in Armagh City Hotel at a cost of £306 including VAT, per delegate. **(Copy circulated)**

**AGREED:** On the proposal of Councillor Ruane seconded by Councillor Casey it was agreed to appoint the following delegates to attend the Economic Conference to be held on Wednesday 25 October 2017 in Armagh City Hotel at a cost of £306 inc vat, per delegate:

- Chairperson of ERT Committee (Councillor P Byrne)
- Deputy Chairperson of ERT Committee (Councillor D Hyland)
- 1 No. Official

**TOURISM, CULTURE & EVENTS**

**ERT/138/2017: TOURISM PERFORMANCE FIGURES 2016**

**Read:** Report dated 14 August 2017 from Mr A Patterson Assistant Director Tourism Culture & Events regarding tourism performance figures 2016. **(Copy circulated)**

Members welcomed the tourism performance figures for 2016 and raised the following points:

- Provide more information which will identify weaknesses in order that improvements can be made.
- Creation of an event diary for the District to include local community festivals and events.
- Tourist Information Offices to open every day including Saturdays and Sundays.
- Carry out comparisons with other Council Districts in terms of tourism performance.
- Improvements to occupancy rates.

**Noted:** Development of the Marketing Plan will include working with businesses to establish customer needs.  
Council officials are working with NISRA to encourage better response rates to surveys to ensure the data gathered is valid.

**AGREED:** On the proposal of Councillor Hanna seconded by Councillor Casey it was agreed to note Report dated 14 August 2017 from Mr A Patterson Assistant Director Tourism Culture & Events, regarding tourism performance figures 2016.

**It was also agreed Mr A Patterson Assistant Director of Tourism Culture & Events, to submit a more detailed report on Tourism Performance Statistics to the ERT Committee based on the points raised by members.**

**ERT/139/2017: IAGTO CONFERENCE**

**Read:** Report dated 14 August 2017 from Ms M Boyle, Tourism Development Officer regarding the IAGTO North American Convention International Golf Travel Market 11-14 December 2017. **(Copy circulated)**

**AGREED:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Hanna seconded by Councillor McAteer it was agreed Newry Mourne & Down District Council attend the International Golf Travel Market (IGTM from 11- 14 December 2017 in Cannes France, with a Council stand to promote Golf Links and parkland courses along with tourism experiences and invite golf clubs within the regions to share the stand space with Council, subject to parkland and links golf clubs within the region attending.

**ERT/140/2017: CLANBRASSIL BARNES & TEA ROOMS  
TOLLYMORE FOREST PARK**

**Read:** Report dated 14 August 2017 from Ms M Boyle, Tourism Development Officer regarding the Clanbrassil Barnes & Tea Rooms at Tollymore Forest Park. **(Copy circulated)**

**AGREED:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Clarke seconded by Councillor Hanna it was agreed the Council enter into a legal agreement with the DAERA for a 20 year Lease for Clanbrassil Barnes & Tea Rooms at Tollymore Forest Park, subject to valuation by DAERA and condition assessment by Council, as per Report dated 14 August 2017 from Ms M Boyle, Tourism Development Officer.

**ERT/141/2017: JUNIOR GOLF COMPETITION**

**Read:** Report dated 14 August 2017 from Ms T Mooney, Assistant Tourism Development Officer regarding Newry, Mourne & Down Junior Golf Trophy. **(Copy circulated)**

**AGREED:** On the proposal of Councillor Hanna seconded by Councillor Clarke it was agreed as follows as per Report dated 14 August 2017 from Ms T Mooney, Assistant Tourism Development Officer regarding Newry Mourne & Down Junior Golf Trophy:

**(a) Newry Mourne & Down District Council to manage the Newry Mourne & Down Junior Golf Tournament to take place 15-17 August 2018.**

**(b) To appoint Newry Mourne & Down District Council to be represented on the organising group along with representation from:**

- Warrenpoint Golf Club**
- Kilkeel Golf Club**
- Royal County Down**
- Golfing Union Ireland**



(6.00pm – Councillors P Brown and C Enright left the meeting)

**ERT/142/2017: WARRENPOINT BATHS**

**Read:** Report dated 14 August 2017 from Mr M Patterson, Enterprise Development Officer regarding **(Copy circulated)**

**AGREED:** On the proposal of Councillor Ruane seconded by Councillor McAteer it was agreed the Council proceed to appoint a suitably qualified multi-disciplinary team to design and manage a development brief process in line with existing planning approval.

**EXEMPT INFORMATION**

**ERT/143/2017: LAND AT SLIEVE GULLION FOREST PARK**

**AGREED:** On the proposal of Councillor Ruane seconded by Councillor Stokes it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the Meeting during discussion on the following 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 14 August 2017 from Ms M Boyle, Tourism Development Officer regarding valuation of land at Slieve Gullion Forest Park for additional car parking space. **(Copy circulated)**

**AGREED:** On the proposal of Councillor Ruane seconded by Councillor Clarke it was agreed to come out of Closed Session.

When the Committee came out of Closed Session, the Chairperson reported that the following decision had been taken:

**AGREED:** On the proposal of Councillor Clarke seconded by Councillor Stokes it was agreed as follows as per Report dated 14 August 2017 from Ms M Boyle, Tourism Development Officer regarding valuation of land at Slieve Gullion Forest Park for additional car parking space:

- (a) The Council enter into discussions with the landowner for a narrow strip of land approximately 110m x 8m, situated on an agricultural field at Slieve Gullion Forest Park, which fronts onto Wood Road, almost opposite existing car park.**
- (b) Council to proceed to purchase the land, subject to negotiations arriving at a price which represents best value for Council and is agreed by Land & Property Services, and subject to the completion of legal formalities.**

**FOR NOTING**

**ERT/144/2017: NI BUSINESS START UP PROGRAMME (NIBSUP)**

**Read:** Report dated 16 August 2017 from Ms A Smyth, Enterprise Development Officer regarding NI Business Start Up Programme (NIBSUP) **(Copy circulated)**

**AGREED:** It was agreed to note that delivery of Business Startup support under interim programme arrangements will cease on Friday 1 September 2017. Delivery of Business Startup support under the collaborative arrangements with the 10 other NI Councils will commence on 4 September 2017.

**ERT/145/2017: UNION 4 PRIORITY FUNDING SEAFLAG**

**Read:** Report dated 14 August 2017 from Ms M Quinn, Project Development Manager regarding Union 4 Priority Funding SEAFLAG. **(Copy circulated)**

**AGREED:** It was agreed to note the above Report.

**ERT/146/2017: WARRENPOINT MARINA**

**Read:** Report dated 14 August 2017 from Mr M Patterson, Enterprise Development Officer regarding Warrenpoint Marina. **(Copy circulated)**

**AGREED:** It was agreed to note the above Report.

**ERT/147/2017: WORKS AT NEWRY TOWN HALL  
PHASE 2 – SPECIALIST EQUIPMENT**

**Read:** Report dated 14 August 2017 from Ms A McGill, Arts, Culture & Museums regarding works at Newry Town Hall Phase 2 – Specialist Equipment. **(Copy circulated)**

**AGREED:** It was agreed to note costs for the supply and fitting of specialist stage equipment for inclusion in Phase 2 works at Newry Town Hall.

**ERT/148/2017: ACTION TRACKER SHEET**

**Read:** ERT Action Tracker Update Sheet. **(Copy circulated)**

**AGREED:** It was agreed to note the ERT Action Tracker Update Sheet.

There being no further business the meeting concluded at 6.10pm.

For consideration at the Council Meeting to be held on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2017.

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

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