

NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of Neighbourhood Services Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 18 March 2020 at 6.00pm in the Boardroom, District Council Offices, Monaghan Row, Newry

Chair: Councillor K Owen

Members: Councillor T Andrews
Councillor T Hearty
Councillor H McKee
Councillor K McKeivitt
Councillor D Taylor
Councillor D Tinnelly

Officials in Attendance: Mr R Moore, Director of Neighbourhood Services
Mr K Scullion, Assistant Director Facilities Management and Maintenance
Mr J McBride, Assistant Director, Waste Management (Acting)
Ms L Dillon, Democratic Services Officer

NS/133/2020: APOLOGIES AND CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

Apologies were received from:

Councillor D Curran
Councillor W Clarke
Councillor C Mason
Councillor G Stokes
Councillor O Magennis

NS/134/2020: DECLARATIONS OF "CONFLICTS OF INTEREST"

No declarations of Conflicts of Interest were made.

NS/135/2020: ACTION SHEET OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 19 FEBRUARY 2020

Read: Action Sheet of the Neighbourhood Services Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 19 February 2020. ***(Circulated)***.

AGREED: **On the proposal of Councillor McKeivitt, seconded by Councillor Hearty, it was agreed the Action Sheet of the Neighbourhood Services Committee Meeting held**

on Wednesday 19 February 2020 be noted and actions removed as marked.

FOR CONSIDERATION AND/OR DECISION

NS/136/2020: NOTICE OF MOTION – CHANGING PLACES (CP) TOILETS

It was noted the following Notice of Motion which had come forward for consideration In the name of Councillor McMurray had been withdrawn from the agenda.

“That this Council will proactively enable Changing Places (CP) toilets within our Council area by: committing to include CP toilets in all new Council buildings and leisure facilities; to review and resource retro fitting of CP toilets to all our public buildings over the next 10 years; require all applications for new buildings, open to the public, to install CP toilet instead of a basic disability toilet; to resource a fund for local businesses and charities to retro fit or install a CP toilet.

FACILITIES MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE

NS/137/2020: CHRISTMAS ILLUMINATIONS AND CELEBRATIONS GROUP MEETING HELD ON 13 FEBRUARY 2020

Read: Report dated 18 March 2020 from Mr K Scullion re: Christmas Illuminations and Celebrations Group Meeting held on 13 February 2020. *(Circulated)*.

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Tinnelly, seconded by Councillor McKevitt, it was agreed to recommend approval of the following:-

- **Note the contents of this report and the Action Sheet of the Christmas Illuminations Group Meeting held on 13th February 2020.**
- **Officers to work with the local communities identified within the report who currently receive a cut Christmas Tree to move to having a planted Christmas Tree instead, subject to agreement on location of the tree, its future annual maintenance and dressing of the tree for Christmas.**
- **Officers proceed to issue an Expression of Interest to support a maximum of seven towns and villages to provide a recognised group with a planted sustainable Christmas Tree under the same terms as last year with the additional selection criteria referred to in Section 2 of this report, for the event that more than seven eligible applications are**

received. The programme to be delivered over a maximum eighteen-month period.

- **Officers proceed to procure the required sustainable Christmas trees and supporting infrastructure to support this programme.**
- **Endorse other actions detailed in the report of the Christmas Illuminations Group Meeting held on 13th February 2020.**

NS/138/2020: FIRE AT AMENITY BUILDING STRUELL MUNICIPAL CEMETERY DOWNPATRICK

Mr Scullion gave a verbal update regarding the fire at Struell Municipal Cemetery:-

- There was a fire within the Amenity Building at Struell Cemetery during the early hours of Thursday 27th February.
- There was extensive damage to several of the rooms including the Store. The Councils mini digger and dumper were located within the store and they are extensively damaged.
- Fire Service are conducting their own investigation into the likely cause and Council were awaiting their findings. Currently there was no indication that this was due to any criminal activity.
- The incident has been reported to Council Insurers and officers were working on the basis that the damage and loss would be covered by our policy.
- The Cemetery is open as normal with the exception that the facilities within the Amenity Building are no longer available.
- Council are hiring a mini digger and dumper vehicle to cover burial works.
- The tiles of the Amenity building comprised asbestos materials. The remaining tiles on the roof and all debris within the building and outside has now been removed by an authorised asbestos removal contractor.

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Hearty seconded by Councillor McKee it was agreed to note the update given by Mr K Scullion Assistant Director Facilities Management and Maintenance regarding the fire at Struell Cemetery.

WASTE MANAGMENT

NS/139/2020: GREEN FLEET PRESETATION

Noted: It was noted a presentation by Officers regarding Green Fleet had been deferred.

NS/140/2020: COMPOST AWARENESS WEEK

Read: Report dated 19 January 2020 from Mr J McBride re: update on Compost Awareness Week. *(Circulated)*.

AGREED: **It was unanimously agreed to note the update on Compost Awareness Week.**

NS/141/2020: FLY TIPPING REVISED SHARED PROTOCOL

Read: Report dated 18 March 2020 from Mr J McBride, re: update on Fly Tipping Revised Shared Protocol. *(Circulated)*.

AGREED: **It was unanimously agreed to note the update in relation to the revised Fly Tipping Protocol.**

FOR NOTING

NS/142/2020: Arc21 MEMBERS MONTHLY BULLETIN FEBRUARY 2020

Read: Arc21 Members' Monthly Bulletin February 2020. *(Circulated)*.

AGREED: **It was unanimously agreed to note the above bulletin.**

NS/143/2020: Arc21 JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING – THURSDAY 30 JANUARY 2020

Read: Minutes of Arc21 Joint Committee Meeting held on Thursday 30 January 2020. *(Circulated)*.

AGREED: **It was unanimously agreed to note the above Minutes.**

NS/144/2020: DAERA AFFORESTATION FORUM

Read: Letter dated 28 February 2020 from DAERA inviting the Council to nominate a senior official to participate in a Cross-Governmental and Local Government Afforestation Forum to work on the delivery of an enhanced afforestation programme. *(Circulated)*.

AGREED: It was unanimously agreed to appoint Mr R Moore Director of Neighbourhood Services to the Cross Governmental and Local Government Afforestation Forum.

NS/145/2020: HISTORIC ACTIONS TRACKING SHEET

Read: Historic Actions Tracking Sheet (*Circulated*).

NS/070/2019 – Memory Gardens

In response to an update request from Councillor Tinnelly, it was noted Grounds Maintenance Staff were in contact with the Health Trusts to ascertain if land could be identified and in the case land was not available via the Health Trusts, the Council would examine land in its possession.

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Tinnelly, seconded by Councillor McKee, it was agreed the Historic Actions Tracking Sheet of the Neighbourhood Services Committee be noted and actions removed as marked.

The following additional items were raised:

Provision of Temporary Toilets – Rostrevor

In response to a query raised by Councillor Tinnelly regarding the provision of temporary toilets in Rostrevor, it was noted the Council's Active & Healthy Communities Department were looking at a project regarding toilet provision and details of same would be reported to the Neighbourhood Services Committee in due course.

Use of Round-up

In response to a query from Councillor McKeivitt regarding the use of Round Up and the previous agreement by Council to undertake a 12-month review with a target to phase out completely the use of use of herbicides containing glyphosate for controlling weeds and invasive species on Council property within 3 years, Mr Moore confirmed the Council had also agreed to amend this recommendation to show that the aim was to phase out its use on Council estate within 3 years **or sooner**.

EXEMPT INFORMATION ITEMS

ITEMS RESTRICTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH PART 1 OF SCHEDULE 6 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT (NI) 2014

Items 14, 15, 16, 17 and 18 are deemed to be exempt under 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) and the public may, by resolution, be excluded during this item of business.

On the proposal of Councillor McKevitt , seconded by Councillor Taylor, it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on these items.

NS/146/2020: Arc21 JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING – 30 JANUARY 2020 IN COMMITTEE ITEMS

Read: Arc21 Joint Committee Meeting Minutes 30 January 2020 In Committee items. *(Circulated)*.

NS/147/2020: Arc21 NWP VARIATION

Read: Template report re: Arc21 Organic Waste Treatment Contract Variation. *(Circulated)*.

NS/148/2020: WASTE MANAGEMENT BUSINESS CASES

Read: Report dated 18 March 2020 from Mr J McBride re: Waste Management Business Cases. *(Circulated)*.

NS/149/2020: BUSINESS CASE FOR ANNUAL SPORTS PITCH RENOVATIONS AND END OF SEASON MAINTENANCE OF COUNCIL SPORTS PITCHES

Read: Report dated 18 March 2020 from Mr K Scullion re: Business Case for annual sports pitch renovations and end of season maintenance of Council sports pitches. *(Circulated)*.

NS/150/2020: BUSINESS CASE FOR THE COUNCIL CHRISTMAS ILLUMINATIONS DISPLAYS ACROSS THE DISTRICT

Read: Business Case for the Council Christmas Illuminations Displays across the District. *(Circulated)*.

Councillor Andrews proposed and Councillor McKevitt seconded to come out of closed session.

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

Item 14 – Arc21 Joint Committee Meeting Minutes – Thursday 30 January 2020

On the proposal of Councillor McKevitt seconded by Councillor McKee it was agreed to note the Arc 21 Joint Committee Meeting Minutes held on Thursday 30 January 2020.

Item 15 – Arc21 NWP Variation

On the proposal of Councillor Andrews seconded by Councillor McKee it was agreed to note that the various processes in relation to the Treatment Contract had been concluded.

Item 16 – Waste Management Business Cases

On the proposal of Councillor Andrews seconded by Councillor Tinnelly it was agreed to approve the Business Cases for:-

- 1. The provision of sampling, analysis and reporting services for the Council's closed landfill sites, in accordance with license / permit conditions (Appendix I);**
- 2. The provision of a mattress collection & reprocessing recycling service at the Council's Household Recycling Centres (HRCs) (Appendix II); and**
- 3. The provision of public realm cleansing services (Appendix III).**

It was also agreed Council arrange to remove a mattress on Church Street Warrenpoint, as requested by Councillor Tinnelly

Item 17 – Business Case for annual sports pitch renovations and end of season maintenance of Council sports pitches

On the proposal of Councillor Hearty seconded by Councillor McKeivitt it was agreed to note the content of the report dated 18 March 2020 and accept the findings of the Business Case presented at Appendix 1 which would see the Council appoint, through a tender process, a suitably competent contractor to undertake essential out of season renovation works to Council football and gaelic pitches for a three-year period starting in summer 2020.

Item 18 – Business Case for the Council Christmas illuminations display across the District

On the proposal of Councillor McKeivitt seconded by Councillor Andrews it was agreed to note the content of the report dated 18 March 2020 and accept the conclusion of the business case that Option 3 be chosen as the preferred option. Option 3 would see the appointment, through a tender process, of a competent electrical contractor who would test, repair, erect, connect and dismantle the Council's Christmas illuminations.

There being no further business the meeting ended at 6.30pm.

Signed: Councillor K Owen
Chairperson of Neighbourhood Services Committee

Signed: Mr R Moore
Director of Neighbourhood Services