

NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

RTS/M

Minutes of the Regulatory and Technical Services Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 18 December 2018 at 6.00pm in the Boardroom, District Council Offices, Monaghan Row, Newry

Chairperson: Councillor C Casey

Members:

Councillor T Andrews	Councillor W Clarke
Councillor G Craig	Councillor D Curran
Councillor H Harvey	Councillor L Kimmins
Councillor McCauley	Councillor A McMurray
Councillor J Rice	Councillor M Ruane
Councillor G Stokes	

Officials in Attendance: Mr R Moore, Director of Neighbourhood Services
Mr J McBride, Assistant Director, Waste Management
Mr A McKay, Chief Planning Officer
Mr K Scullion, Assistant Director Facilities Management and Maintenance
Ms C McAteer, Democratic Services Officer
Ms L O Hare, Democratic Services Officer

RTS/183/2018: APOLOGIES AND CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

Apologies were received from Councillor G Fitzpatrick & Ms M Ward, Director.

Councillor Casey referred to the heavy prolonged rain over the past weekend and said as a consequence there was a number of flooding issues in the South Down area. The Department of Infrastructure sought assistance from the Council in delivering sandbags to homes, placing road closure signs and cones on the affected roads.

Councillor Casey advised the Council was able to supply a number of personnel to assist and they worked along with Department of Infrastructure from Saturday afternoon to the early hours of Sunday morning.

He thanked Council staff for helping out in this way during what must have been a very worrying time for householders in the affected areas.

RTS/184/2018: DECLARATIONS OF "CONFLICTS OF INTEREST"

There were no declarations of Conflicts of Interest.

RTS/185/2018: ACTION SHEET OF THE REGULATORY AND TECHNICAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 20 NOVEMBER 2018.

Read: Action Sheet of the Regulatory and Technical Services Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 20th November 2018. ***(Circulated)***.

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor Curran, it was agreed the Action Sheet of 20 November 2018 be noted and actions removed as marked

FOR CONSIDERATION AND/OR DECISION

RTS/186/2018: **NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES PROJECT UPDTE – DATE FOR NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES WORKING GROUP TO MEET IN JANUARY 2019.**

Read: Report dated 18 December 2018 from Mr J McBride, Assistant Director of Waste Management regarding Neighbourhood Services Project Update. *(Circulated)*

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor Curran, it was agreed that a date of 30 January 2019 to be set for the inaugural meeting of the Neighbourhood Services Working Group to meet to progress matters.

PLANNING

RTS/187/2018: **CURRENT APPEALS – NOVEMBER 2018**

Read: Report of current appeals in November 2018. *(Circulated)*.

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor Harvey, it was unanimously agreed to note the above Report.

RTS/188/2018: **RECORD OF MEETINGS BETWEEN PLANNING OFFICERS AND PUBLIC REPRESENTATIVES 2018-2019 – DECEMBER 2018**

Read: Report on Record of Meetings between Planning Officers and Public Representatives December 2018-2019. *(Circulated)*.

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor Harvey, it was unanimously agreed to note the above Report.

RTS/189/2018: **PLANNING COMMITTEE PERFORMANCE REPORT NOVEMBER 2018**

Read: Report on Planning Committee Performance for November 2018. *(Circulated)*.

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Craig, seconded by Councillor Clarke, it was unanimously agreed to note the above Report.

Mr McKay referred to the introduction of the new Scheme of Delegation and Operating Protocol and in particular requests to call-in applications. He advised the first list issued on Monday 10 December and these lists would continue to issue on a weekly basis.

Mr McKay emphasised that if a Councillor wished to call-in an application they should send their request by email to Democratic Services accompanied by the reasons for the call-in request.

In response to Councillor Craig's concerns regarding the increasing number of live applications in the system and the number of live applications per Case Officer, Mr McKay said there were a number of factors impacting on these figures including staffing issues and time being devoted to major applications but said the figures would get back to being on a downward trend.

Councillors Andrews and Taylor asked if the lists could include the applicant name and address. In response Mr McKay said Officers were working with a template that was commonly used by other Councils and in addition, there was a need to be mindful of all of the new data protection regulations that apply and if there was no need to publish data then it should not be published.

Mr McKay added that the list currently had to be produced manually as it was not automatically generated and so there was additional work in producing it.

AGREED: In response to Councillor Clarke, Mr McKay said he would look at the design of the Council's website to see if the location of where the lists were displayed could be improved.

FACILITIES MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE

RTS/190/2018: PROPOSED EXTENSION TO WARRENPOINT CEMETRY – AMENDED LAYOUT

Read: Report dated 18 December 2018 from Mr K Scullion, Assistant Director Facilities Management and Maintenance on proposed extension to Warrenpoint Cemetery – Amended layout. *(Circulated)*.

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor Harvey, it was unanimously agreed to recommend approval of the following:-

- 1. Note content of report and approve proposed layout for extension to Warrenpoint Municipal Cemetery as set out in Appendix 2 circulated at the meeting**
- 2. Approve the submission of a planning application for a revised road layout as shown in the drawing provided at Appendix 2.**

WASTTE MANAGEMENT

RTS/191/2018: HRCs WORKSHOP PROPOSAL

Read: Report dated 18 December 2018 from Mr L Dinsmore, Head of Waste Processing and Enforcement re: Review of operations at Household Recycling Centres (HRCs). *(Circulated)*.

NOTED: On the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor Curran, it was unanimously agreed to approve the recommendation to organise an Elected Member workshop to

consider the recommendations of a review of operations at the Council's Household Recycling Centres.

RTS/192/2018: COST OF FLY TIPPING

Read: Report dated 18 December 2018 from Mr L Dinsmore, Head of Waste Processing re: cost of Fly-tipping. *(Circulated)*.

NOTED: **On the proposal of Councillor Curran, seconded by Councillor Clarke, it was unanimously agreed to recommend approval of the following:-**

- 1. Council to continue to develop systems to record incidence of Fly-tipping.**
- 2. Officials to continue to liaise with NIEA and neighbouring Councils to seek to address problems associated with Illicit Dumping of waste.**

RTS/193/2018: DOG FOULING STRATEGY

Read: Report dated 18 December 2018 from Mr L Dinsmore, Head of Waste Processing re: Strategy to address Dog-Fouling. *(Circulated)*.

AGREED: **On the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor Curran, it was unanimously agreed to recommend approval of the following:-**

- 1. Draft Dog Fouling Strategy to be circulated for final comments to CMT, with intent to finalise February 2019.**
- 2. Provision to be made within the Rates Estimates to provide for advertising and publicity campaigns to promote the Dog-Fouling Strategy, with target date set for launch at end-June 2018. Campaign to include signage brand change, vehicle and radio advertising.**
- 3. Clear direction to be received from Legal Department regarding establishment of Dog Control Orders.**
- 4. Close communications to be made with Environmental Cleansing Services to ensure that 'roads' are regularly swept.**
- 5. Protocol to be established, that all reports of dog fouling are recorded and are addressed, with intent to identify problem locations as may need specific actions.**
- 6. Publicity materials e.g. brand signage to be available to parks authorities, community groups and schools for display at approaches to their premises.**

Councillor Taylor left the meeting (6.30 pm)

Mr McBride advised a bid would be submitted to the Rates Estimates for advertising campaign and related literature.

Councillors raised the following issues:-

- The Council should look at a policy of “Naming and Shaming” dog owners who allowed their dogs to foul in public places and who did not pick up.
- Officers investigate if there would be merit in Dog Control Orders being in force in parks etc. with which the Council had a Service Level Agreement e.g. Castlewellan Forest Park.
- Concern there was insufficient Enforcement Staff to deal with dog fouling.
- Investigate the benefits of locating high profile banners similar to those used by the National Trust to highlight responsible dog ownership.
- Burrendale kick-about area has a major problem with dog fouling and there is no signage and enforcement at this location. There was a need to target these types of areas.

Mr McBride said he would investigate the issues raised by Councillors.

RTS/194/2018: SINGLE USE PLASTICS

Read: Report dated 18 December 2018 from Mr L Dinsmore, Head of Waste Processing and Enforcement re: Single Use Plastics. *(Circulated)*.

AGREED: **On the proposal of Councillor Clarke, seconded by Councillor McMurray, it was unanimously agreed to recommend approval of the following:-**

- i. **Support A&NDBC in a call for action, by large supermarket retailers, on single use plastics;**
- ii. **Support A&NDBC in its petition to the Secretary of State for the Environment concerning the incorporation of the measures requested by the large supermarket retailers, into future legislation;**
- iii. **Authorise Council Officials to write to the large supermarket retailers, as well as the Secretary of State for the Environment, confirming the Council’s support to A&NDBC.**

AGREED: **At the request of Councillor Clarke it was also agreed to include Spar and Eurospar supermarkets in the call for action on single use plastics.**

Mr McBride noted the following issues raised by Councillors:-

- The introduction of a deposit return scheme.
- River features to trap litter before it reaches the sea.

Mr Moore said a previous Notice of Motion in relation to single use plastics had not been progressed as quickly as he would have liked but Mr McBride was now liaising with the Environmental Health Department regarding single use plastic and the issue was also being discussed at TAG Meetings where it was hoped funding would be identified to progress matters.

FOR NOTING

RTS/195/2018: ARC 21 MEMBERS MONTHLY BULLETIN 25 OCTOBER 2018

Read: ARC 21 Members Monthly Bulletin 25 October 2018. *(Circulated)*.

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

RTS/196/2018: ARC 21 JOINT COMMITTEE MIINUTES 27 SEPTEMBER 2018

Read: ARC 21 Joint Committee Minutes 27 September 2018. *(Circulated)*.

AGREED: **It was unanimously agreed to note the contents of the above Joint Committee Minutes.**

RTS/197/2018: Dfl Re: WEED SPRAYING

Read: Letter dated 13 December 2018 from the Department of Infrastructure regarding weed spraying in the Newry, Mourne and Down Area. They advised that the Department has now arranged for any remaining weed to be scuffed, beginning with Newry City area, and this work should be completed within the next few weeks. A copy of operational schedule was enclosed, however they stated it was not possible to give an absolute commitment to spray weeds next year until budgets for the 2019/2020 financial have been confirmed. *(Circulated)*.

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

Mr Moore said Officers would continue to follow up on this issue and he would like to see greater co-ordination between the Council's weed spraying operations and those of other Statutory Agencies.

Councillor Ruane left the meeting (6.40 pm).

RTS/198/2018: HISTORIC ACTION SHEET

Read: Historic Action Sheet. *(Circulated)*.

AGREED: **It was unanimously agreed to the Historic Actions Sheet be noted and actions removed as marked.**

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

Items 17 and 18 are deemed to be exempt items under paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (NI) 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 Andrews, seconded by Councillor Curran, it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on these items.

RTS/199/2018: ITEMS FROM ARC21 JOINT COMMITTEE MINUTES THURSDAY 27 SEPTEMBER 2018

Read: Items from ARC21 Joint Committee Minutes Thursday 27 September 2018. *(Circulated)*.

RTS/200/2018: MATTRESS RECYCLING BUSINESS CASE

Read: Report dated 18 December 2018 from Mr J McBride, Assistant Director of Waste, on the proposal to provide facility for recycling of mattresses. *(Circulated)*.

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

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

ARC 21 Joint Committee Minutes of Thursday 27 September 2018.

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor Curran it was agreed to note the "In Committee" items outlined in the ARC21 Joint Committee Minutes of Thursday 27 September 2018.

Proposal to provide facility for recycling of mattresses.

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Harvey, seconded by Councillor Clarke it was agreed to approve the recommendation outlined in Section 3 of the report dated 18 December 2018 that the Council implement a mattress recycling scheme within the Household Recycling Centres with further recommendations listed at 2,3,4 and 5 also approved.

There being no further business the meeting ended at 6.45pm

For adoption at the Council Meeting to be held on Monday 7 January 2019.

**Signed: Councillor C Casey
Chairperson of Regulatory and Technical Services Committee**

**Signed: Mr R Moore
Director of Neighbourhood Services**