

At the Council Meeting held on 3 July 2017 the RTS Minutes were discussed and the following was agreed:-

The amendment to Minute RTS/80/2017 was AGREED being that Council accept option 1, this being glass collection pods on refuse collection vehicles.

AGREED: The Minutes were agreed as an accurate record, with the exception of minute RTS/80/2017 and adopted on the proposal of Councillor Burns, seconded by Councillor Ruane.

NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Regulatory and Technical Services Committee Meeting held on
Wednesday 21 June 2017 in the Boardroom, District Council
Offices, Monaghan Row, Newry**

Chairperson: Councillor J Trainor

Vice Chairperson: Councillor V Harte

Members:

Councillor T Andrews	Councillor S Burns
Councillor C Casey	Councillor W Clarke
Councillor G Craig	Councillor D Curran
Councillor G Fitzpatrick	Councillor L Kimmins
Councillor J Macauley	Councillor M Ruane
Councillor G Stokes	Councillor D Taylor
Councillor J Tinnelly	

**Non Committee
Members:** Councillor W Walker
Councillor P Byrne

Officials in Attendance Mr L Hannaway, Chief Executive
Mr C O'Rourke, Director of Regulatory and Technical Services
Mr A Wilkinson, Interim Director Regulatory and Technical Services
Mr A McKay, Chief Planning Officer
Mr J Parkes, Assistant Director of Waste Management
Mr K Scullion, Assistant Director Facilities Management and Maintenance
Ms K Bingham, Head of Performance and Improvement
Ms C McAteer, Democratic Services Officer

RTS/68/2017: APOLOGIES AND CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

It was noted there were no apologies.

Councillor Trainor welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked his Party and the Council for appointing him as Chairperson of the Regulatory and Technical Services Committee for the incoming year.

He welcomed Mr Adam Wilkinson as the newly appointed Interim Director of Regulatory and Technical Services and also wished Canice O'Rourke, the retiring Director a long and happy retirement.

Councillor Tinnelly said he would also like to extend his best wishes to Canice on his retirement. He said Canice had always been a very fair and respectful Council Officer and he wished him all the best in his new life.

RTS/69/2017: DECLARATIONS OF "CONFLICTS OF INTEREST"

Noted: There were no declarations of interest.

RTS/70/2017 START TIME FOR R&TS MEETINGS FROM JUNE 2017-MAY 2018

Read: Suggested timetable to agree a start time for R&TS Meetings from June 2017 – May 2018. **(Circulated).**

Agreed: **On the proposal of Councillor Harte, seconded by Councillor Macauley, it was agreed to approve the proposed dates for the R&TS Committee Meetings for June 2017-May 2018 as circulated.**

It was also agreed that the R & TS Committee Meetings would start at 6.00 pm.

Noted: Councillors asked officials to ensure that in future the Planning Committee and the Regulatory & Technical Services Committee Meetings would not be held on the same day.

**RTS/71/2017: ACTION SHEET OF THE REGULATORY AND TECHNICAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING
– WEDNESDAY 21 May 2017**

Read: Action Sheet of the Regulatory and Technical Services Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 21 May 2017. **(Circulated)**.

Agreed: **The Action Sheet was noted.**

Noted: In response to comments from Members, Mr Parkes said he would continue to ensure the messages to Elected Members regarding any interruptions to bin collections were up to date and relevant and that Councillors would be kept advised of the details for staff contacts.

FOR CONSIDERATION AND/OR DECISION – WASTE MANAGEMENT

RTS/72/2017: REPORT RE: BROWN BINS IN URBAN AREAS

Read: Report dated 21 June 2017 from Mr J Parkes, Assistant Director Waste Management, regarding provision of brown bins for food waste collection. **(Circulated)**.

Mr Parkes gave a detailed verbal update on the provision of brown bins to householders for food waste collection and responded to a number of queries and comments from Members.

Agreed: **On the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor Burns, it was agreed to approve the recommendation in the report that as a set project to address food waste regulations and recycling targets, that the Council grant the issuing of 3,000 140L brown bins, caddies and liners to those households that require a food waste collection service. This would incur a non-budgeted cost of £39,150 but this cost however should be covered by reduced waste processing costs.**

Agreed: **On the proposal of Councillor Craig, seconded by Councillor Burns, it was agreed under delegated authority from the Chief Executive, that any interested Councillor could attend a free seminar organised by WRAP on Thursday 22 June 2017 in the Hilton, and that they would be entitled to claim mileage for attending.**

RTS/73/2017: REGULATORY AND TECHNICAL SERVICES BUSINESS PLAN 2017/2018

Read: Regulatory and Technical Services Business Plan 2017/2018 **(Circulated)**.

Agreed: **On the proposal of Councillor Craig, seconded by Councillor Burns, it was agreed to approve the Regulatory and Technical Services Business Plan for 2017/2018.**

FOR CONSIDERATION AND/OR DECISION - PLANNING

RTS/74/2017: PLANNING COMMITTEE PERFORMANCE REPORT

Read: Planning Performance Indicators for May 2017. **(Circulated)**.

Agreed: **The above Report was noted.**

Noted: Mr McKay advised the number of live applications was continuing to fall and there was a steady increase in the number of decisions issued per month. He said it was important to note that at the end of May almost 300 decisions had been issued, with a 90% approval rate and a 10% refusal rate.

RTS/75/2017: RECORD OF MEETINGS BETWEEN PLANNING OFFICERS AND PUBLIC REPRESENTATIVES – APRIL/MAY 2017

Read: Record of Meetings between Planning Officers and Public Representatives for April/May 2017. **(Circulated)**.

Agreed: **The above Report was noted.**

RTS/76/2017: PLANNING PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

Read: Report dated 21 June 2017 from Kate Bingham, Head of Performance and Improvement on the proposed draft response to the consultation on developing a Planning Performance Management Framework. **(Circulated)**.

Agreed: **On the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor Curran, it was agreed to approve the draft response to the consultation on the Planning Performance Management Framework and that the submission of the draft response to the Department for Infrastructure be**

made by 30 June in order to meet the consultation deadline.

Councillor Craig left the meeting – 6.40 pm.

**FOR CONSIDERATION AND/OR DECISION
-FACILITIES MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE**

RTS/77/2017: NEWCASTLE ENTRY INTO BRITAIN IN BLOOM, AUGUST 2017

Read: Report dated 21 June 2017 from Mr K Scullion, Assistant Director Facilities Management and Maintenance, regarding the Newcastle entry into Britain in Bloom **(Circulated)**.

Agreed: **On the proposal of Councillor Fitzpatrick, seconded by Councillor Clarke, it was agreed as follows regarding the Newcastle Entry into Britain in Bloom:-**

- **Council agree to supply 10 surplus metal hanging baskets, surplus bedding plants (max value £200), surplus rubber safety mats for use by Ark Community for their activities within their centre at Castlewellan Road, Newcastle.**
- **Council agree to have a four man squad of its Grounds Maintenance Squad assist Autism NI with works to turn their existing garden at Island Park into a sensory garden (maximum one Saturday).**

RTS/78/2017: ABANDONED BOAT IN DUNDRUM BAY, DUNDRUM

Read: Report dated 21 June 2017 from Mr K Scullion regarding abandoned boat in Dundrum Bay, Dundrum. The report recommended the appointment of a Marine Engineer to assess the condition of the boat, whether it does or will in the future present an environmental or health and safety risk and to make recommendations for any action required to prevent the boat from becoming an environmental or health and safety risk. **(Circulated)**.

Councillor Clarke proposed and Councillor Burns seconded that the recommendation in the report should not be approved and that due to health and safety concerns, expressions of interest be sought for the removal of the abandoned boat from Dundrum Bay.

The proposal was put to a vote and voting was as follows:-

FOR: 7
AGAINST: 1
ABSTENTIONS: 5

The proposal was declared carried.

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Clarke, seconded by Councillor Burns it was agreed that the recommendation in the report dated 21 June 2017 should not be approved and that due to health and safety concerns, expressions of interest be sought for the removal of the abandoned boat from Dundrum Bay.

Noted: Mr Scullion advised that the Council would have to obtain a licence first from DAERA before the boat could be removed.

RTS/79/2017: KILBRONEY CEMETERY CAPITAL PROJECT

Read: Report dated 21 June 2017 from Mr K Scullion regarding the provision of capital budget for works at Kilbroney Cemetery, Rostrevor (**Circulated**).

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Tinnelly, seconded by Councillor Fitzpatrick it was agreed to transfer £30,000 capital surplus from capital projects within the Regulatory and Technical Services Directorate for works at Kilbroney Cemetery, Rostrevor.

Noted: In response to queries from Members Mr Scullion advised the R & TS Committee had previously agreed, following complaints of moss and leaf debris, not to remove trees along the boundary of Kilbroney Cemetery but he said this could be looked at again as part of the capital project.

Mr Scullion also advised that officials from his Section would liaise with Newry Parish on measures that could be put in place on the day of the Annual Cemetery Mass at Monkshill Graveyard, Newry, to ensure access to resident's properties and driveways is maintained.

FOR CONSIDERATION AND/OR DECISION – WASTE MANAGEMENT

RTS/80/2017: REPORT RE: OPTIONS FOR GLASS RECYCLING

Read: Report dated 21 June 2017 from Mr J Parkes, Assistant Director Waste Management, regarding options for glass recycling – to agree a more standardised approach across the District relating to glass recycling and the blue bin service and to consider which glass collection is best to ensure recycling targets are met in an efficient manner. The report asked the Committee to consider additional options such as the introduction of a vehicle glass pod system into the refuse service system starting April 2018. **(Circulated)**.

A detailed discussion followed during which Mr O'Rourke responded to queries and comments from Members.

Councillor Stokes proposed and Councillor Fitzpatrick seconded that Council appoint an Independent Consultant to provide an independent economic appraisal on the three Options outlined in the report presented to Committee and also that a fourth option be included and costed i.e. that the current arrangement for blue bin material to include glass which exists in the legacy Newry and Mourne area should be extended throughout the District.

The proposal was put to a recorded vote and voting was as follows:- **(Attached)**

FOR:	8
AGAINST:	6
ABSENTIONS:	Nil

The proposal was declared carried.

Agreed: **On the proposal of Councillor Stokes, seconded by Councillor Fitzpatrick it was agreed the Council appoint an Independent Consultant to provide an independent economic appraisal on the three Options for glass recycling, outlined in the report presented to Committee, and also that a fourth option be included and costed i.e. that the current arrangement for blue bin material to include glass which exists in the legacy Newry and Mourne area should be extended throughout the District.**

FOR NOTING

RTS/81/2017: THE PLANNING (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) REGULATIONS (NI) 2017

Read: Report re: The Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations (NI) 2017. **(Circulated).**

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

RTS/82/2017: HISTORIC ACTION SHEET

Read: Report re: Regulatory & Technical Services Committee Action Tracking Update (dated 17 May 2017) **(Circulated).**

Councillors raised a number of issues which they said required action:-

- Councillor Clarke expressed his disappointment that an issue he had requested on 20 April 2016 regarding an audit/review of Council owned toilets to look at issues such as usage, upgrading, cleaning schedules, opening/closing times etc. had still not been actioned. He said the toilets in Newcastle had again been closed over the busy Easter holiday period and this was an unacceptable visitor experience.
- Arising from an issue raised by Councillor Tinnelly about the recent closure of the toilets in Warrenpoint Square, Councillor Fitzpatrick said if there was an issue with the closure of Council owned toilets that Councillors should be advised of this and also that a message be put on the Council's facebook page.

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

Agreed: **On the proposal of Councillor Curran, seconded by Councillor Kimmins, it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on the following matters which related to exempt information 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).**

RTS/83/2017: CHRISTMAS ILLUMINATIONS/CELEBRATIONS

Read: Report dated 21 June 2017 from Mr K Scullion regarding Christmas Illuminations and Celebrations. **(Circulated).**

Agreed: When the Committee came out of closed session, the Chairman reported it had been agreed on the proposal of Councillor Clarke, seconded by Councillor Kimmins, to continue with the present arrangements for Christmas celebrations for the current year and that a Working Group be set up to consider options for 2018 and beyond.

It was agreed the Working Group meet in August/September 2017 and that the issue of Membership of the Group be referred to the Party Representatives' Forum for agreement.

RTS/84/2017: VICTORIA LOCK GATES

Agreed: At the request of Councillor Stokes it was agreed officers investigate and report back to Councillors on why the Lock Gates at Victoria Lough were not working and when it was anticipated that the gates would be operable again.

It was also agreed that boat owners who wanted to exit the Lough be kept advised of progress and if necessary temporary arrangements be put in place to enable them to leave if required.

There being no further business the meeting ended at 8.10 pm.

For consideration at the Council Meeting to be held on Monday 3 July 2017.

Signed: Councillor John Trainor
Chairperson of Regulatory & Technical Services Committee

Signed: Mr A Wilkinson
Interim Director Regulatory & Technical Services

NEWRY, MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL
RECORDED VOTE

DATE: 21-06-2017 VENUE: Boardroom, Newry MEETING: Regulatory and Technical Services

SUBJECT OF VOTE: That the Council appoint an Independent Consultant to provide an independent economic appraisal on the three Options for glass recycling, outlined in the report presented to Committee, and also that a fourth option be included and costed i.e. that the current arrangement for blue bin material to include glass which exists in the legacy Newry and Mourne area should be extended throughout the District.

COUNCILLOR	FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
T Andrews	X			
S Burns				
C Casey		X		
W Clarke		X		
G Craig				
D Curran	X			
G Fitzpatrick	X			
V Harte		X		
L Kimmins		X		
J Macauley	X			
M Ruane		X		
G Stokes	X			
D Taylor	X			
J Tinnelly	X			
J Trainor	X			
TOTALS	8	6	Nil	