

NEWRY MOURNE AND DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of Strategy Policy & Resources Committee Meeting held on Thursday 14 March 2019 at 5.00pm in the Mourne Room, Downshire Civic Centre, Downpatrick

In the Chair: Councillor M Savage

In Attendance:

Councillor P Brown	Councillor R Burgess
Councillor P Byrne	Councillor M Carr
Councillor S Doran	Councillor C Enright
Councillor O McMahon	Councillor J Rice
Councillor M Ruane	Councillor G Sharvin
Councillor J Trainor	Councillor W Walker

Officials in Attendance: Mr L Hannaway, Chief Executive
Mrs D Carville, Director of Corporate Services
Mrs R Mackin, Assistant Director Corporate Planning & Policy
Mr C Mallon, Assistant Director of Estates and Project Management
Mr J McGilly, (Acting) Assistant Director Community Planning and Performance
Mr A McKay, Chief Planning Officer
Mrs C Miskelly, Assistant Director Corporate Services (HR & Safeguarding)
Miss S Taggart, (Acting) Democratic Services Manager
Ms L O'Hare, Democratic Services Officer

SPR/042/2019: APOLOGIES AND CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

An apology was received from Mrs Marie Ward, Director of Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism.

SPR/043/2019: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Chief Executive declared an interest in item SPR/058/2019 – Request for Annual Leave Carry Over – Liam Hannaway.

The Director of Corporate Services declared an interest in item SPR/063/2019 – Request for Dorinnia Carville to sit as an Independent Member on Audit Committee for Tourism NI in a voluntary capacity, which was an additional item added to the agenda.

SPR/044/2019: ACTION SHEET OF THE STRATEGY, POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 14 FEBRUARY 2019

Read: Action Sheet of the Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee Meeting held on 14 February 2019. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: **On the proposal of Councillor Burgess, seconded by Councillor Byrne, it was agreed that the Action Sheet of 14 February 2019 be noted and actions removed as marked.**

COMMUNITY PLANNING AND PERFORMANCE

SPR/045/2019: COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE

Read: Report dated 14 March 2019 from Mr J McGilly, Assistant Director Community Planning and Performance (Acting), regarding Committee Terms of Reference. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: **On the proposal of Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Ruane, it was agreed to adopt the proposed changes as detailed in the attachments to the report.**

Councillor Brown and Councillor McMahon entered the meeting at 5.10pm & 5.11pm respectively.

SPR/046/2019: DEVELOPMENT TRUST NI PUBLIC SOCIAL PARTNERSHIP PROJECT

Read: Report dated 14 March 2019 from Mr J McGilly, Assistant Director Community Planning and Performance (Acting), regarding Development Trust NI Public Social Partnership Project. **(Copy Circulated)**

Agreed: **On the proposal of Councillor McMahon, seconded by Councillor Doran, it was agreed that Council partner with DTNI to progress this initiative. It was also agreed that Officers from Community Planning, Community Engagement and Economic Development engage with DTNI via the steering group.**

CORPORATE PLANNING AND POLICY

SPR/047/2019 FOUR YEAR REVIEW OF COUNCILLOR'S EQUALITY AND GOOD RELATIONS REFERENCE GROUP FOR PERIOD 2015-2019

Read: Report dated 14 March 2019 from Mr C Moffett, Head of Corporate Policy and Ms S Rice, Corporate Policy and Equality Officer regarding four year review of Councillor's Equality and Good Relations Reference Group for Period 2015-2019 **(Copy circulated)**

The Chief Executive advised a four year review of the Councillor's Equality and Good Relations Reference Group had been tabled at its meeting in March 2019 and it was recommended that the next meeting of the group be held in June 2019 to determine its role and remit going forward -during the new term of Council.

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Councillor Byrne stated he would like to see the group continue in the same format with the same membership subject, to the election results.

Agreed: **It was agreed to note the contents of the report and accept the recommendation that the next meeting of the Councillor's Equality and Good Relations Reference Group be held in June 2019 to determine its role and remit going forward during the new term of Council.**

CORPORATE SERVICES – DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

SPR/048/2019: NAC PAYMENT 2019

Read: Report dated 14 March 2019 from Ms S Taggart, Democratic Services Manager (Acting), regarding NAC Payment 2019 **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: **On the proposal of Councillor Burgess, seconded by Councillor Walker it was agreed to note the contents of the report in relation to Council's annual subscription to the National Association of Councillors.**

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

Agreed: **On the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor Burgess, it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on the next matters which related to exempt information by virtue of para. 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government (Northern Ireland) 2014 – Information relating to the financial or business affairs of a particular person (including the Council holding that information) and the public may, by resolution, be excluded during this item of business.**

SPR/049/2019: BUSINESS CASE FOR THE PROVISION OF ADVERTISING AGENCY SERVICES FOR THE COUNCIL'S STATUTORY ADVERTISING REQUIREMENTS

Read: Report dated 14 March 2019 from Ms V Keegan, Head of Communications and Marketing, regarding Business Case for the Provision of Advertising Agency Services for the Council's Statutory Advertising Requirements **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: **On the proposal of Councillor Burgess, seconded by Councillor Sharvin, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.**

Agreed: **On the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor Byrne it was agreed to proceed with Option 2 as detailed in the circulated Business Case to appoint through a tender process, an advertising agency supplier to undertake the requirements of Council in relation to statutory advertising.**

SPR/050/2019: REPLACEMENT PLANNING IT SYSTEM

Read: Report dated 14 March 2019 from Mr A McKay, Chief Planning Officer, regarding Replacement Planning IT System. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: **On the proposal of Councillor Burgess, seconded by Councillor Sharvin, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.**

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Byrne, seconded by Councillor Ruane, it was agreed to endorse the proposal for a new regional Planning IT System, as described in the officer's report.

SPR/051/2019: NI PUBLIC SERVICES OMBUDSMAN COMPLAINT

Read: Report dated 14 March 2019 from Mr A McKay, Chief Planner regarding NI Public Services Ombudsman complaint. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Burgess, seconded by Councillor Sharvin, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Doran, seconded by Councillor Byrne, it was agreed to accept the recommendations, as outlined in paragraph 1.1 of the officer's report, including the £800 consolatory payment.

SPR/052/2019: CIVIC CENTRE REGENERATION (CCR) THEATRE/CONFERENCE PROJECT – DFI RIVERS AGREEMENT

Read: Report dated 14 March 2019 from Mr A Grimshaw, Project Director, regarding Civic Centre Regeneration (CCR) Theatre/Conference Project – DFI Rivers Agreement **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Burgess, seconded by Councillor Sharvin, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor Byrne, it was agreed to note the contents of the report and approve the recommendations as per paragraph 3.1 of the officer's report to enter into a legal agreement with DFI Rivers, whereby flood alleviation works required for the Theatre/Conference location be incorporated into Councils project.

Councillor Enright left the meeting at this point 5.28pm

SPR/053/2019: CIVIC CENTRE REGENERATION (CCR) THEATRE/CONFERENCE PROJECT – ICT APPOINTMENT

Read: Report dated 14 March 2019 from Mr A Grimshaw, Project Director, regarding Civic Centre Regeneration (CCR) Theatre/Conference Project – ICT Appointment **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Burgess, seconded by Councillor Sharvin, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor Byrne, it was agreed to note the contents of the report and approve the recommendations as per paragraph

3.1 of the officers report, to approve entering into a contract with the successful Integrated Consultant Team for the Theatre/Conference project at a cost detailed in the officers report and enter into a contract with the successful Integrated Consultant Team for the Civic Hub/Regeneration project at a cost detailed in the officers report.

SPR/054/2019: GERRY BROWN PARK

Read: Report dated 14 March 2019 from Mr C Mallon, Assistant Director of Estates and Project Management (**Copy circulated**)

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Burgess, seconded by Councillor Sharvin, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor Byrne, it was agreed to approve the lease of Gerry Brown Park to DFI, under licence, to facilitate site investigation works and to dispose of the asset through the vesting process to facilitate the construction of the Southern Relief Road.

Councillor Sharvin entered the chamber at this point - 5.32pm

SPR/055/2019: REQUEST FROM DEPARTMENT FOR COMMUNITIES FOR REPAYMENT OF GRANT FUNDING IN RESPECT OF THE BIG SCREEN IN NEWRY

Read: Report dated 14 March 2019 from Mrs D Carville, Director of Corporate Services, regarding Repayment of Grant Funding in Respect of the Big Screen in Newry (**Copy circulated**)

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Burgess, seconded by Councillor Sharvin, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Byrne, seconded by Councillor Ruane, it was agreed to approve the recommendation as per paragraph 3.1 of the officer's report, to approve repayment of £23,192.99 that was allocated to the Big Screen in Newry to Department for Communities, as the expenditure had been deemed irregular by the Department.

SPR/056/2019 DISPOSAL OF SURPLUS ASSETS

Read: Report dated 14th March 2019 from Mr C Mallon, Assistant Director of Estates and Project Management (**Copy circulated**)

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Burgess, seconded by Councillor Sharvin, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor Byrne it was agreed to approve the release of the following assets to the public sector through the D1 process:

- NM123 – Kilkeel Town Hall
- NM219 – Newry Sports Centre
- NM062 – Malachy Conlon Park, Cullaville

Also agreed that Members accept the expression of interest from Southern Health and Social Care Trust for car parking on a portion of land within the Daisy Hill Nurseries site as indicated on the circulated map and to proceed with the open market sale for the remainder of the site.

SPR/057/2019 INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS UPDATE

Read: Report dated 14 March 2019 from Mrs C Miskelly, Assistant Director Corporate Services: (HR & Safeguarding) and Mr K Montgomery, Assistant Director Corporate Services (Finance) **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Burgess, seconded by Councillor Sharvin, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor Doran, it was agreed to note the update provided within the officer’s report and agree to extend the approval to provide dedicated Trade Union, HR and Payroll resources to the project as previously outlined, including the necessary backfill where required.

Having previously declared an interest the Chief Executive left the Chamber– 5.44pm

SPR/058/2019: REQUEST FOR ANNUAL LEAVE CARRY OVER

Verbal update provided by Mrs D Carville, Director of Corporate Services, regarding request for Annual Leave carry over for the Chief Executive.

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Burgess, seconded by Councillor Sharvin, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Byrne, it was agreed to approve the request for annual leave carry over of the Chief Executive up to a maximum of 10 days into the next financial year.

The Chief Executive re-entered the Chamber– 5.46pm.

SPR/059/2019: CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED FROM DEPARTMENT FOR COMMUNITIES – RATES SUPPORT GRANT (RSG)

Read: Correspondence received dated 7 March 2019, Department for Communities, regarding Rates Support Grant (RSG) Overpayments for the period 1 April 2015 to 31 March 2018 **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Burgess, seconded by Councillor Sharvin,

it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.

Agreed: It was agreed to note the correspondence received from Department for Communities regarding Rates Support Grant (RSG) Overpayments for the period 1 April 2015 to 31 March 2018.

SPR/060/2019: ALBERT BASIN ACTION SHEET

Read: Action sheet of the Albert Basin Task and Finish Working Group meeting held on 7 February 2019 **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Burgess, seconded by Councillor Sharvin, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.

Agreed: It was agreed to note the action sheet from the Albert Basin Task and Finish Working Group meeting held on 7 February 2019.

SPR/061/2019: EFFICIENCY WORKING GROUP ACTION SHEET

Read: Action sheet of the Efficiencies Working Group meeting held on 25 February 2019 **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Burgess, seconded by Councillor Sharvin, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.

Agreed: It was agreed to note the action sheet from the Efficiencies Working Group meeting held on 25 February 2019.

SPR/062/2019: STRATEGIC PROJECTS WORKING GROUP ACTION SHEET

Read: Action sheet of the Strategic Projects Working Group meeting held on 7 March 2019 **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Burgess, seconded by Councillor Sharvin, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session

Agreed: It was agreed to note the action sheet from the Strategic Projects Working Group meeting held on 7 March 2019.

Having previously declared an interest the Director of Corporate Services left the Chamber - 5.58pm.

SPR/063/2019: DORINNIA CARVILLE TO SIT AS INDEPENDENT MEMBER OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE OF TOURISM NI IN A VOLUNTARY CAPACITY

The Chief Executive advised a request had been made by Tourism NI for Mrs Dorinnia Carville to sit as Independent Member of the Audit Committee of Tourism NI in a voluntary capacity.

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Burgess, seconded by Councillor Sharvin, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Ruane, it was agreed to permit Mrs Dorinnia Carville to sit as Independent Member of the Audit Committee of Tourism NI in a voluntary capacity.

The Director of Corporate Services re-entered the Chamber at this stage – 6.01pm

There being no further business, the Meeting concluded at 6.02pm

Signed: Councillor Michael Savage
Chairperson

Signed: Dorinnia Carville
Director of Corporate Services