

NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Ref: SE/2024

**Minutes of Sustainability & Environment Committee Meeting held on
Wednesday 20 March 2024 at 6.00pm in Council Chamber,
Monaghan Row, Newry**

Chair: Councillor W Clarke

In Attendance in Chamber:

Councillor C Enright	Councillor K Feehan
Councillor D Finn	Councillor J Jackson
Councillor G Kearns	Councillor M Larkin
Councillor O Magennis	Councillor K Murphy
Councillor H Reilly	Councillor D Taylor

Officials in Attendance:

Mr A Cassells, Outgoing Director Sustainability and Environment
Ms S Murphy, Incoming Director Sustainability and Environment
Mr C Sage, Assistant Director Sustainability
Ms F Branagh, Democratic Services Officer

Officials in attendance via teams: Ms S Taggart, Democratic Services Manager (Acting)

SE/033/2024: APOLOGIES AND CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

In the absence of the Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson Councillor Clarke assumed the Chair.

Apologies were received from Councillors Andrews, Brennan, McEvoy and Truesdale

Councillor Clarke noted that this was Mr Cassells final meeting as Director of Sustainability and Environment and wished him well for the future, stating that he had been a pleasure to work with, commending his work ethic and advised that he was always keen to try and find a solution to any problems.

Councillor Enright echoed the sentiments expressed and further commended Mr Cassells on his work in relation to the green economy.

Councillors Finn, Jackson, Magennis, Reilly and Taylor expressed their best wishes to Mr Cassells in his future endeavours and thanked him for his patience and working with them on the Committee. Members also extended their best wishes to Mrs Murphy in her new role as Director.

Mr Cassells thanked the Members for their kind words and wished them well in their future endeavours, both individually and within their Parties.

SE/034/2024: DECLARATIONS OF "CONFLICTS OF INTEREST"

There were no declarations of interest.

SE/035/2024: ACTION SHEET: SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 21 FEBRUARY 2024

Read: Action Sheet of the Sustainability and Environment Committee Meeting held on 21 February 2024. **(Copy circulated)**

Councillor Jackson asked for an update on item SE/128/2023 specifically relating to CCTV within the Ballynahinch area. Mr Cassells advised he would respond to the Member directly following the meeting.

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Magennis, seconded by Councillor Finn, it was agreed to note the Action Sheet of the Sustainability and Environment Committee Meeting held on 21 February 2024.

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

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Enright, seconded by Councillor Kearns, it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on items 4 to 9, 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 any particular person (including the Council holding that information) and the public may, by resolution, be excluded during this item of business.

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

The Chairperson advised the following had been agreed whilst in closed session:

RESTRICTED – FOR DECISION

SE/036/2024: FORMER LANDFILL SITE REVIEW – AUGHNAGUN AND DRUMANAKELLY

Read: Report dated 20 March 2024 from Mr A Cassells, Director of Sustainability and Environment, regarding Former Landfill Site Reviews: Aughnagun and Drumanakelly. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Reilly, seconded by Councillor Clarke, it was agreed that officers develop a Business Case for the installation of Solar (Photovoltaic) Panels at the former landfill site Aughnagun for further consideration.

It was also agreed that Council further explore the benefits of installing reed beds at both sites in order to make the sites self-sustaining in terms of the management of the leachate generated on site.

SE/037/2024: BUSINESS CASE FOR MINI-TRACTOR AT CASTLEWELLAN FOREST PARK

Read: Report dated 20 March 2024 from Mr C Sage, Assistant Director: Sustainability, regarding the purchase of a mini tractor for Castlewellan Forest Park. **(Copy circulated)**

Following a query from Councillor Enright, Mr Cassells confirmed that if an electric version of proposed new machinery was not available or a viable option, this would be noted within the respective reports.

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor K Murphy, seconded by Councillor Enright, it was agreed to note the contents of the report and associated business case, and to accept the conclusion of the business case to proceed with the procurement of effective replacement machinery.

SE/038/2024: WASTE PROCESSING SINGLE TENDER ACTIONS

Read: Report dated 20 March 2024 from Sinead Murphy, Director Sustainability & Environment, regarding Single Tender Actions. **(copy circulated)**

AGREED: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Magennis, seconded by Councillor Kearns, to approve the STAs as outlined in Section 2.1 of the Officer's Report.

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

SE/039/2024: NEWCASTLE HARBOUR – ALLOCATION OF MOORING LICENSES

Read: Report dated 20 March 2024 from Mr C Sage, Assistant Director: Sustainability, regarding the Allocation of Moorings at Newcastle Harbour. **(Copy circulated)**

Councillor Taylor left the meeting – 6.57pm

AGREED: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Larkin, seconded by Councillor Enright, to note the allocation of mooring licenses at Newcastle Harbour for a 3 year period from March 2024.

SE/040/2024: ELECTRIC FORKLIFTS

Read: Report dated 20 March 2024 from Mr C Sage, Assistant Director: Sustainability, regarding the business case for the purchase of a forklift truck. **(Copy circulated)**

Councillor Feehan left the meeting – 7.02pm

AGREED: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Enright, seconded by Councillor Reilly, to note that in line with the

Council's Climate Change Emergency Declaration and environmental objectives, Council officers will progress with the procurement of a battery powered forklift truck.

SE/041/2024: ARC21 JOINT COMMITTEE MEMBERS' MONTHLY BULLETIN OF 29 FEBRUARY 2024 AND IN COMMITTEE MINUTES OF THURSDAY 25 JANUARY 2024

Read: ARC21 – Joint Committee Members' Monthly bulletin of meeting held 29 February 2024, and "in committee" minutes of meeting held 25 January 2024. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: **It was agreed the proposal of Councillor Kearns, seconded by Councillor Magennis, to note the arc21 Joint Committee Members' Monthly bulletin of meeting held 29 February 2024, and "in committee" minutes of meeting held 25 January 2024.**

FOR NOTING

SE/042/2024: ARC21 JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES OF THURSDAY 25 JANUARY 2024

Read: ARC21 Joint Committee Meeting In Committee Minutes of Thursday 25 January 2024. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: **It was agreed the proposal of Councillor Magennis, seconded by Councillor Kearns, to note the minutes of the arc21 Joint Committee meeting of Thursday 25 January 2024.**

Councillor Reilly raised an issue regarding the dumping of illegal matter within the Kilkeel area. The Chairperson advised Councillor Reilly to send the details through to officers for them to deal with same.

There being no further business the meeting ended at 07.08pm.

For adoption at the Council Meeting to be held on Monday 8 April 2024.

**Signed: Councillor Willie Clarke
Chairperson**

**Signed: Mr Andrew Cassells
Director of Sustainability & Environment**