

**NEWRY, MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Ref: AHC/2022

---

**Minutes of Active and Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on  
Monday 15 August 2022 at 6.00pm in the Mourne Room, Downshire Estate  
and via Microsoft Teams**

---

<b>Chairperson:</b>	Councillor H Gallagher (Chamber)	
<b>In attendance in Chamber:</b>	Councillor J Brennan Councillor D McAteer	Councillor D Lee-Surginor Councillor G Sharvin
<b>In attendance via Teams:</b>	Councillor C Casey Councillor G Malone Councillor G O'Hare	Councillor A Lewis Councillor L McEvoy Councillor B Ó Muirí
<b>Also in attendance:</b>	Councillor T Andrews Councillor H McKee	Councillor C Enright
<b>Officials in attendance in Chamber:</b>	Mr M Lipsett, Director Active and Healthy Communities Mr E Devlin, Assistant Director, Health & Wellbeing Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement Mr P Tamati, Assistant Director, Leisure & Sport Ms S Taggart, Democratic Services Manager (Acting) Mrs L Cummins, Democratic Services Officer Mrs D Starkey, Democratic Services Officer	
<b>Also in attendance via Teams:</b>	Ms K Lough, Mae Murray Foundation Ms A Chambers, Mae Murray Foundation	

**AHC/126/2022: APOLOGIES & CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS**

Apologies were received from Councillors Finnegan, McKevitt, Owen and Tinnelly.

**AHC/127/2022: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**AHC/128/2022: ACTION SHEET OF THE ACTIVE & HEALTHY COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 20 JUNE 2022**

Read: Action sheet of the Active & Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on Monday 20 June 2022. **(Copy circulated).**

*AHC/122/2022: Ukraine Assistance Centre*

In response for an update from Councillor Lewis, Mrs Hillen confirmed correspondence had been dispatched to the Executive Office as requested and there had been no response received as yet.

*AHC/011/2022: Leasing of Council land, Expression of Interest, Killough Road Community Centre, Downpatrick*

Councillor Sharvin asked that completion of the assessment process be prioritised to establish if it met criteria. The group that had expressed an interest in the land were seeking external funding and had already lodged a planning application.

Mrs Hillen confirmed she would endeavour to do so and would revert to Councillor Sharvin.

**Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Ó Muirí, seconded by Councillor McEvoy, to note the Action Sheet of the Active and Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on Monday 20 June 2022.**

## **PRESENTATIONS**

**AHC/129/2022: PRESENTATION FROM MAE MURRAY FOUNDATION – INCLUSIVE BEACHES**

The Chairperson welcomed Ms Alix Crawford and Ms Kyleigh Lough from the Mae Murray Foundation and invited them to make their presentation.

Ms Crawford thanked the Committee for the opportunity to meet and delivered her presentation (copy of which is appended to these minutes).

Following the presentation, the Chairperson invited questions and comments from Members which were responded to as follows:

- In terms of timescale, the inclusive beach project would be starting from the beginning and would be dependent on the securing of funding (up to a year) and sourcing of equipment. Before committing to applying for funding matters such as staffing, changing places facilities and Council commitment would need to be in place.
- Clarification was provided as to why Newcastle Beach was suitable instead of Tyrella and Ballyhornan beaches. Reasons included parking infrastructure issues with the provision of and safety for parking, toilet provision, accessibility and connectivity onto the beaches with the decline and incline being problematic.
- Wheelchair loan schemes with chairs positioned in local communities could be an alternative for beaches such as Tyrella and Ballyhornan where infrastructure issues requiring huge investment existed.
- The use of a complementary service running alongside the Inclusive Beach Model.
- In terms of promoting the loan service, Mae Murray Foundation advertised that through their membership and encouraged Members to promote the resources currently available at Cranfield at this time.

- Tides and sand movement were a real challenge in Northern Ireland.
- Temporary matting to enable people to reach the water's edge is based at Cranfield as an example. It was highlighted this was required to be positioned at the start of the day and taken away at night.

Mr Tamati advised Members a report on inclusive beaches would be tabled at the September Committee Meeting .

**Agreed:** It was agreed by all the note the presentation provide by the Mae Murray Foundation with a report to be tabled at the Active and Healthy Communities Committee Meeting in September 2022.

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

**AHC/130/2022:** **TEMPORARY GATE ACCESS FOR A PEDESTRAIN ROUTE TO THE WINDMILL FIELD FROM SAINFIELD COMMUNITY CENTRE**

**Read:** Report dated 15 August 2022 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement regarding temporary gate access for a pedestrian route to the Windmill Field from Saintfield Community Centre. **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Lee-Surginor, seconded by Councillor Sharvin, to approve Saintfield Development Association (SDA) to install a temporary gate for pedestrian access from Saintfield Community site to Windmill Field.

**AHC/131/2022:** **FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE REPORT**

**Read:** Report dated 15 August 2022 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement regarding the Financial Assistance Report **(Copy circulated)**

In welcoming all the successful awards for Christmas illuminations and events being allocated money, Councillor Sharvin expressed concern at only 9 of 31 of the successfully completed defibrillator applications being awarded a financial contribution. He spoke of the importance of defibrillators and referred to a recent notice of motion brought to Council by Councillor Taylor highlighting the need for defibrillator access across the District.

Councillor Sharvin expressed concern at how little investment was being provided and requested that officers seek to identify the shortfall in defibrillator funding to award all successful applicants for the defibrillator access theme.

Mr Lipsett confirmed officers would examine the budget and bring a report back to the Committee.

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Sharvin, seconded by Councillor Ó Muirí to approve the recommendations for Call 3 as contained within the officer's report and for Groups who were successful within the Defibrillator access theme to be scored and

**ranked with letters of offer to be issued as budget become available.**

**It was further agreed to seek to identify the shortfall in defibrillator funding to award all successful applicants for the defibrillator access theme.**

**AHC/132/2022: PEACE IV LOCAL ACTION PLAN**

**Read:** Report dated 15 August 2022 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement regarding Peace IV Local Action Plan. **(Copy circulated)**

Mrs Hillen asked Members to note that the Peace IV Partnership Meeting referred to within the report had been held on 19 May 2022.

By way of update Mrs Hillen informed Members there had been discussions with Peace IV around the Derrybeg BMX track and it had gone out for additional community consultation on the back of concerns raised. These concerns had been considered and were in talks with SEUPB to review the feasibility of the location of that project. Mrs Hillen advised Committee Members would be kept informed of any decisions made.

Councillor Ó Muirí welcomed the Urban Sports Track and how it would be a massive boost to the Newry area and insisted there needed to be a full public consultation with community groups on the location for this project.

Mrs Hillen confirmed she would forward the recommendation to the Peace IV Partnership.

**Agreed:** **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Sharvin, seconded by Councillor McEvoy that Committee agree to the recommendations of the PEACE IV Partnership as set out within section 2.1 of the officer's report that the Shared Spaces & Services Discussions are ongoing with SEUPB with regards to budget, timescales and location of the remaining projects and Officers are fully engaged in consultation to inform the decision making process.**

**AHC/133/2022: DISTRICT ELECTORAL AREA (DEA) FORUMS - UPDATE REPORT**

**Read:** Report dated 15 August 2022 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement regarding District Electoral Area (DEA) Forums Update Report **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor McAteer, seconded by Councillor Lee-Surginor to note the report and approve the actions for:**

- Downpatrick DEA Forum Private Meeting held on Tuesday 14 June 2022.**
- Newry DEA Forum Private Meeting held on Thursday 16 June 2022.**

- **Slieve Croob DEA Forum Private Meeting held on Tuesday 21 June 2022.**
- **Crotlieve DEA Forum Private Meeting held on Thursday 30 June 2022.**

**AHC/134/2022**

**COMMUNITY CO-ORDINATION HUB – UPDATE REPORT**

**Read:** Report dated 15 August 2022 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement regarding an update report for the Community Co-ordination Hub. (Copy circulated)

**Agreed:** **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor McEvoy, seconded by Councillor O’Hare, to note the report and approve the actions in the Action Sheet attached for the Community Coordination Hub (CCH) Meeting held on Wednesday 20 July 2022.**

**HEALTH AND WELLBEING**

**AHC/135/2022**

**SHIP SANITATION INSPECTION CHARGES**

**Read:** Report dated 15 August 2022 from Mr E Devlin, Assistant Director Health & Wellbeing regarding Ship Sanitation Inspection Charges. (Copy circulated)

**Agreed:** **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor McAteer, seconded by Councillor Gallagher to implement the new pricing structure (2022/23) for charging for the issuing of Ship Sanitation Exemption and Control Certificates from 1 April 2022.**

**AHC/136/2022**

**REQUEST FOR SUPPORT FOR KEEP NI BEAUTIFUL IN THEIR BID FOR FUNDING FOR A CLIMATE CLEVER COMMUNITIES PROGRAMME**

**Read:** Report dated 15 August 2022 from Mr E Devlin, Assistant Director Health & Wellbeing regarding a request for support for Keep NI Beautiful in their bid for funding for a Climate Clever Communities Programme. (Copy circulated)

In response to a query from Councillor Sharvin regarding sites identified in Newry, Lisburn, Strabane and Omagh, Mr Devlin advised Keep NI Beautiful chose the highlighted areas and that Council had no input.

**Agreed:** **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Lee-Surginor, seconded by Councillor McAteer, that Council pledge support and if needed provide a letter of support to Keep NI Beautiful’s bid for funding for the Climate Clever Communities programme and that financial support was not required.**

AHC/137/2022

**LEISURE PUBLIC HOLIDAY AND STAFF TRAINING ARRANGEMENTS**

Read: Report dated 15 August 2022 from Mr P Tamati, Assistant Director, Leisure & Sport regarding leisure public holidays and staff training arrangements.

Councillor McAteer queried the principle for some of reduced hours and Mr Tamati advised it was consistent with previous years and based on numbers attending.

Councillor McKee advised he wish to highlight concerns regarding Kilkeel Swimming Pool.

Mr Tamati agreed to speak with Councillors McAteer and McKee directly regarding any the queries they had.

**Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Gallagher, seconded by Councillor McEvoy to approve the leisure public holiday and staff training arrangements for 2022 and 2023 as per appendix 1 of the officer's report.**

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

**Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Sharvin, seconded by Councillor Casey, it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on items 13-15 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 McEvoy, seconded by Councillor Sharvin, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.**

AHC/138/2022

**REQUEST FOR APPROVAL AND FUNDING FOR CARBON OFFSETTING FEASIBILITY STUDY**

Read: Report dated 15 August 2022 from Mr E Devlin, Assistant Director, Health & Wellbeing regarding request for approval and funding for Carbon Offsetting Feasibility Study. (Copy circulated)

**Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Lee-Surginor, seconded by Councillor Sharvin, to approve Council to contribute to funding the project as outlined within the officer's report.**

**AHC/139/2022**                    **MULLAGHBAWN COMMUNITY CENTRE – TERMINATION OF LEASE**

Read:                                Report dated 15 August 2022 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement regarding Mullaghbawn Community Centre (Copy circulated)

**Agreed:**                                **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor McEvoy, seconded by Councillor Casey to proceed to terminate the lease for Mullaghbawn Community Centre.**

**AHC/140/2022**                    **BALLYNAHINCH COMMUNITY CENTRE - REFURBISHMENT**

Read:                                Report dated 15 August 2022 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement regarding Internal Refurbishment of the Market House, Ballynahinch **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:**                                **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Lee-Surginor, seconded by Councillor Sharvin to increase the capital budget required as outlined within the officer’s report for:**

- **Completion of maintenance and repair work as per Condition Survey carried out by AECOM Infrastructure & Environment UK Limited in July 2022 (Appendix 1).**
- **Replacement of current PVC coated corrugated sheet metal covering at estimated costs.**
- **Carry out both necessary & desirable works at an estimated.**
- **Consultant Fees.**

**FOR NOTING – COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

**AHC/141/2022**                    **NEWRY NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL**

Read:                                Report dated 15 August 2022 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement regarding District Electoral Area (DEA) Forums Update Report **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:**                                **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Casey, seconded by Councillor Sharvin, to note the report and the Minutes of Newry Neighbourhood Renewal Meeting held on Wednesday 23 March 2022, approved at Newry NRP Meeting held on Wednesday 27 April 2022.**

**AHC/142/2022**                    **POLICING & COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP (PCSP) REPORT**

Read:                                Report dated 15 August 2022 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement regarding Policing & Community Safety Partnership (PCSP). **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Casey, seconded by Councillor O'Hare to note the report and the Minutes of the Policing Committee & PCSP Meeting held on Tuesday 24 May 2022, approved at the Policing Committee & PCSP Meeting on Tuesday 26 July 2022.

#### **FOR NOTING – HEALTH AND WELLBEING**

**AHC/143/2022      ACTIVE TRAVEL UPDATE**

**Read:** Report dated 15 August 2022 from Mr E Devlin, Assistant Director, Health & Wellbeing regarding an update on Active Travel. **(Copy circulated)**

In response to points raised by Councillors McAteer and Enright, Mr Devlin undertook to meet with them outside the meeting.

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Casey, seconded by Councillor Sharvin to note Active Travel Update.

#### **FOR NOTING – LEISURE & SPORTS**

**AHC/144/2022      NEWCASTLE CENTRE – AUDITORIUM DEMOLITION WORKS**

**Read:** Report dated 15 August 2022 from Mr P Tamati, Assistant Director, Leisure & Sport regarding Newcastle Centre, Auditorium Demolition

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Casey, seconded by Councillor Sharvin to note the report and the following:

- 1. The commencement of the demolition works of the Newcastle Centre auditorium extension area from the 5th September 2022.**
- 2. Due to essential electrical works by NI Electricity (NIE) as part of the demolition, the Newcastle Centre will be closed for between 5-10 days from the 5th September 2022.**
- 3. Due to contractor access requirements, the car parking next to the Newcastle Centre will also be closed during this period however public toilets in this car park will remain open.**
- 4. Essential bookings (e.g. child care services) will not be disrupted, with alternative arrangements in place for all other bookings and services.**
- 5. Signage as per appendix 1 will be erected to promote the commencement of the phase 1 development of the Newcastle Centre.**



**There being no further business the meeting ended at 7.15pm.**

Signed: Councillor H Gallagher  
Chairperson

Signed: Michael Lipsett  
Director Active and Healthy Communities