

NEWRY, MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Ref: AHC/2020

**Minutes of Active and Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on
Monday 17 August 2020 at 6.00pm via Skype**

Chairperson: Councillor L McEvoy

In attendance: (Councillors)

Councillor T Andrews	Councillor C Casey
Councillor A Finnegan	Councillor H Gallagher
Councillor M Gibbons	Councillor G Malone
Councillor C Mason	Councillor K McKeivitt
Councillor G O'Hare	Councillor B Ó Muirí
Councillor D Taylor	Councillor J Trainor
Councillor W Walker	

Also In Attendance: Councillor O Hanlon

Officials in attendance: Mr M Lipsett, Director of Active and Healthy Communities
Mr E Devlin, Assistant Director Health & Wellbeing
Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director Community Engagement
Mr P Tamati, Assistant Director Leisure and Sport
Ms S Taggart, Democratic Services Manager (Acting)
Mrs D Starkey, Democratic Services Officer

AHC/65/2020: APOLOGIES & CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

An apology was received from Councillor McMurray.

AHC/66/2020: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Casey declared an interest in relation to item AHC/053/2020 on the action sheet regarding lease of lands at Barcroft Community Centre as a member of Newry Felons .

AHC/67/2020: ACTION SHEET OF THE ACTIVE & HEALTHY COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 15 JUNE 2020

Read: Action sheet of the Active & Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on Monday 15 June 2020. **(Copy circulated)**

AHC/162/2019 – Saintfield Community Centre

In response to a query from Councillor Walker, Mrs Hillen provided an update regarding the leasing of units at Saintfield Community Centre. She confirmed several meetings had taken place regarding the expression of interest exercise and although it had not yet been officially launched final approval was being sought from Senior Management Team to do so.

AHC/206/2019 – Adoption Suicide Down to Zero

In response to Councillor Gibbons, Mr E Devlin confirmed £10,000 had been allocated through the financial assistance scheme which remained open to see if there were any further applications. He advised that due to constraints of Covid-19 the working group with the Trust had not yet been progressed.

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Ó Muirí, seconded by Councillor Trainor, it was agreed to note the Action Sheet of the Active and Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on Monday 15 June 2020.

AHC/68/2020: NOTICE OF MOTION – PERIOD POVERTY REFERRED FROM COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 6 JULY 2020

The following Notice of Motion came forward for consideration in the name of Councillor Hanlon, referred from Council Meeting held on 3 August 2020.

***“That this Council supports the “Period Poverty” campaign and charities such as the Homeless Period and Red Box Project, the aim of these are to highlight the issue that sanitary products are not affordable for all females.
As an initial step, that this Council looks at the feasibility of the introduction of free sanitary products in all council public conveniences.
We should strive to proactively help efforts to tackle period poverty and be part of bringing about such positive change.
It should be the norm in schools, universities colleges, workplaces, football grounds, concert venues for free access to sanitary product provision.
We as a Council will also write to the to the relevant ministers to ask for an update on the introduction of free sanitary products in schools and education facilities.
Currently the North is the only area of the UK where free products are not provided to those in need”.***

In presenting the Motion, Councillor Hanlon spoke of the many women and girls struggling with rising costs of sanitary products and that Council as well as other public bodies could play their part in reducing this pressure.

Councillor Hanlon advised that the Scottish Parliament announced in 2018 that all women, visiting or working at Holyrood would have access to free towels or tampons and Stormont had recently announced a similar initiative. Derry and Strabane District Council also became the first local authority in Northern Ireland to offer products in some of its public buildings and that free sanitary products were also made available at schools in England, Scotland and Wales.

Councillor Hanlon referred to research published by the charity Plan International in 2017 that indicated that one in ten girls between the ages of 14 and 21 in the UK being unable to afford sanitary products, while 49% had missed an entire day of school because of their period and not having access to products. She advised she had been lobbied locally about this matter and welcomed the officers report that had been circulated and Councils support for the initiative.

Councillors McKeivitt, McEvoy, Taylor and Walker all spoke in support of the motion.

Mr Devlin, provided an overview of the officer's report and recommendations, copies of which had been circulated regarding the notice of motion.

In summing up Councillor Hanlon welcomed the recommendations particularly with regard to the inclusion of the South Eastern Trust.

Agreed:

It was unanimously agreed on the proposal of Councillor Trainor, seconded by Councillor Ó Muirí to approve the following:

- **Write to Department for Education and Department for Economy to ask for an update on the provision of free sanitary products within schools and other educational facilities.**
- **That the feasibility of providing free sanitary products within all Council public conveniences is examined and a report brought back to the relevant Council committee.**
- **Develop a promotional initiative to highlight the area of Period Poverty and continue to work in partnership with the local Health Trusts to promote free provision across all sectors.**
- **Council continue to participate in the Pink Present project and seek to extend its reach within South Eastern Trust area.**

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

AHC/69/2020

PEACE IV REPORT

Read: Report dated 17 August 2020 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement, regarding Peace IV Local Action Plan. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor Walker, to note the update provided and approve to the following recommendations:

Building Positive Relations:

- **Procure and appoint relevant facilitator to deliver online TV community broadcasts showcasing PEACE IV cross-community activity through Animation Projects and the community response to Covid-19. Estimated cost £20K (programme approved by SEUPB).**
- **Procure and appoint relevant facilitator for Irish Language & Ulster Scots Shared Language and Culture Programme. Estimated cost £25k (programme approved by SEUPB).**
- **Shared History Project – Procure and appoint facilitator to deliver a cross-community project on the life and legacy of John Mitchell. Estimated cost £25k (subject to approval from SEUPB).**

AHC/70/2020

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE – COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Read: Report dated 17 August 2020 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement, regarding Financial Assistance. **(Copy circulated)**

Members discussed the report and recommendations at length and concerns were raised regarding the Sports Capital Grant having a maximum level of funding for each applicant being £50,000. Concerns were also raised in relation to the bar prohibiting organisations from re-applying for a 3 year period.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Ó Muirí, seconded by Councillor McKevitt to re-examine the recommendations in relation to the Capital and Minor Works Financial Assistance themes, including the maximum level of funding for each applicant being set up to £100,000, as opposed to a limit of £50,000, and not prohibiting organisations from applying for a 3 year period. It was agreed a report would be brought to the Active and Healthy Communities Committee.

AHC/71/2020

LISNACREE COMMUNITY CENTRE – LEASE AGREEMENT

Read: Report dated 17 August 2020 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement, regarding Lisnacree Community Centre Lease Agreement. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Ó Muirí, seconded by Councillor Trainor to contribute the amount of £500 per annum to compensate the Parish for the use of the lands and to cover the legal fees associated with the renewal of the ten-year lease for Lisnacree Community Centre.**

AHC/72/2020

COMMUNITY ASSET TRANSFER

Read: Report dated 17 August 2020 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement, regarding Community Asset Transfer. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Gallagher, seconded by Councillor Mason to act as a Sponsoring Body for the potential development of a Personal and Family Wellbeing Centre at the Ardnabannon OEC site, Castlewellan.**

LEISURE AND SPORTS

AHC/73/2020

OUTDOOR RECREATION NI (ORNI) SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT – 2020/21

Read: Report dated 17 August 2020 from Mr P Tamati, Assistant Director, Leisure and Sport, regarding the Outdoor Recreation NI (ORNI) Service Level Agreement – 2020/21. **(Copy circulated)**

Councillor Mason in welcoming the Service Level Agreement for community trails raised concerns regarding boundaries for trails running alongside homes and the use of scrambler and quad bikes and referred to Tievenadarragh Forest. Councillor Mason advised it had been raised with Outdoor Recreation NI and suggested it was an issue that could be proactively examined going forward.

Agreed: **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Trainor, seconded by Councillor Gallagher to approve a new Service Level Agreement with Outdoor Recreation NI (ORNI) for the 2020-2021 financial year at the total cost of £40,000 as per appendix 1 contained within the report.**

HEALTH AND WELLBEING

AHC/74/2020

SAFE CYCLING INITIATIVES

Read: Report dated 17 August 2020 from Mr E Devlin, Assistant Director, Health and Wellbeing, regarding the promotion of safer cycling. **(Copy circulated)**

During discussion Members voiced support for the initiative with the following points were put forward:

- Such initiatives should be encouraged within rural villages and on rural roads that lead to schools.
- The need to maintain pathways and cycle lanes.
- Role for PCSP to play in partnership working to ensure promotion of safety.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Taylor, seconded by Councillor Trainor that Council Officers work with key partners, including DfI Officials, PHA, Schools and Sustrans, to identify appropriate initiatives and funding opportunities to encourage an increase in cycling and promote Safer Cycling across the District.

AHC/75/2020

CONSULTATION RESPONSE TO NORTHERN IRELAND HOUSING EXECUTIVE'S DRAFT OLDER PEOPLE'S HOUSING STRATEGY 2020/1-2025/26

Read: Report dated 17 August 2020 from Mr E Devlin, Assistant Director, Health and Wellbeing, regarding a consultation response to Northern Ireland Housing Executive's Draft Older People's Housing Strategy 2020/1-2025/26. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor Casey to return the consultation response as presented within the report to Northern Ireland Housing Executive.

AHC/76/2020

SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE FORUM

Read: Report dated 17 August 2020 from Mr E Devlin, Assistant Director, Health and Wellbeing, regarding the Sustainability and Change Forum. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Taylor, seconded by Councillor Mason to note the report from the Sustainability & Climate Change Forum on Tuesday 30 June 2020 and approve the actions contained within the attached Action Sheet.

FOR NOTING – LEISURE AND SPORTS

AHC/77/2020

SPORTS DEVELOPMENT SERVICE RECOVERY PLAN

Read: Report dated 17 August 2020 from Mr P Tamati, Assistant Director, Leisure and Sport, regarding Sports Development Service Recovery Plan. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: **It was agreed by all to note the contents of the report and the Councils Sports Development Service Recovery Plan as per appendix 1.**

AHC/78/2020

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY FOR COMMUNITY TRAILS

Read: Report dated 17 August 2020 from Mr P Tamati, Assistant Director, Leisure and Sport, regarding funding opportunity for Community Trails. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: **It was agreed by all to note the report on funding opportunity for Community Trails.**

FOR NOTING – COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

AHC/79/2020

SOCIAL INVESTMENT FUND UPDATE

Read: Report dated 17 August 2020 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement, regarding Social Investment Fund, Capital. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: **It was agreed by all to note the report on Social Investment Fund.**

AHC/80/2020

POLICING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP (PCSP)

Read: Report dated 17 August 2020 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement, regarding Policing and Community Safety Partnership. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: **It was agreed by all to note the report as presented and to note the following Policing Committee and PCSP Minutes:**

- **Minutes of the Policing Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 21 January 2020, approved at the Policing Committee Meeting on Tuesday 10 March 2020.**
- **Minutes of the PCSP Meeting held on Tuesday 21 January 2020, approved at the Policing Committee Meeting on Tuesday 10 March 2020.**
- **Minutes of the Policing Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 10 March 2020, approved at the Policing Committee Meeting on Tuesday 21 July 2020.**

- **Minutes of the PCSP Meeting held on Tuesday 10 March 2020, approved at the Policing Committee Meeting on Tuesday 21 July 2020.**

AHC/81/2020

NEWRY NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL PARTNERSHIP

Read:

Report dated 17 August 2020 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement, regarding Newry Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED:

It was agreed by all to note the report and to note the Newry Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership Meeting Minutes:

- **Minutes of Newry NRP Meeting held on Wednesday 22 January 2020, approved at Newry NRP Meeting held on Wednesday 3 June 2020.**
- **Minutes of Newry NRP Meeting held on Wednesday 3 June 2020, approved at Newry NRP Meeting held on Wednesday 1 July 2020.**

AHC/82/2020

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE – NOTICE OF MOTION

Read:

Report dated 17 August 2020 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement, regarding the notice of motion on Domestic Violence. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED:

It was agreed by all to note the update report on the support available from Newry. Mourne and Down District Council for individuals and families experiencing domestic violence.

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

FOR NOTING

AHC/83/2020

REOPENING OF INDOOR LEISURE SERVICES – PHASE 2

Agreed:

On the proposal of Councillor Trainor, seconded by Councillor Andrews, 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 any particular person (including the Council holding that information) and the public may, by resolution, be excluded during this item of business.

Read: Report dated 13 August 2020 from Mr M Lipsett, Director, Active and Healthy Communities regarding the reopening of indoor leisure services – Phase 2. **(Copy circulated)**

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

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor Trainor, it was agreed to note the report which had been agreed at the SPR Committee Meeting held on 13 August 2020 regarding Re-opening of Leisure Facilities Plan – Phase 2.

FOR NOTING

AHC/83/2020

REOPENING OF COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Trainor, seconded by Councillor Andrews, 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 any particular person (including the Council holding that information) and the public may, by resolution, be excluded during this item of business.

Read: Report dated 13 August 2020 from Mr M Lipsett, Director, Active and Healthy Communities regarding the reopening Community Facilities. **(Copy circulated)**

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

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor Trainor, it was agreed to note the report which had been agreed at the SPR Committee Meeting held on 13 August 2020 regarding Re-opening of Community Facilities.

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Trainor, seconded by Councillor Andrews, 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 any particular person (including the Council holding that information) and the public may, by resolution, be excluded during this item of business.

Read: Report dated 17 August 2020 from Mr M Lipsett, Director, Active and Healthy Communities regarding Scheme of Delegation Schedule. **(Copy circulated)**

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

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor Trainor, it was agreed to note the decisions and authorisations contained within the officer's report.

There being no further business the meeting ended at 7.07pm.

Signed: Councillor L McEvoy
Chairperson

Signed: Mr M Lipsett
Director of Active and Healthy Communities