

NEWRY, MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Ref: AHC/2022

**Minutes of Active and Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on
Monday 20 June 2022 at 6.00pm in the Mourne Room, Downshire Estate and
via Microsoft Teams**

Chairperson: Councillor H Gallagher (Chamber)

**In attendance in
Chamber:**

Councillor C Casey	Councillor V Harte
Councillor L McEvoy	Councillor G O'Hare
Councillor G Sharvin	

In attendance via Teams:

Councillor A Lewis	Councillor G Malone
Councillor D Lee-Surginor	Councillor K McKeivitt
Councillor B Ó Muirí	Councillor J Tinnelly

**Also in attendance via
Teams:**

Councillor M Larkin

**Officials in attendance
in Chamber:**

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

**Also in attendance
via Teams:**

Ms C Ferris, Executive Director, Outdoor Recreation Northern
Ireland

AHC/103/2022:

APOLOGIES & CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

Apologies were received from Councillors Finnegan, McAteer and Owen.

AHC/104/2022:

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Harte declared an interest in Item 16: Update Report on Upgrade Works at Barcroft and Three Ways Community Centre.

AHC/105/2022:

**TO AGREE START TIME FOR AHC COMMITTEE
MEETINGS 2022-2023**

Read:

Paper recommending proposed dates and start times for Active and
Healthy Committee Meetings 2022/2023 **(Copy circulated)**.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Ó Muirí, seconded by Councillor McKeivitt that the start time for AHC Committee Meetings 2022/2023 will be 6.00 pm.

AHC/106/2022: **ACTION SHEET OF THE ACTIVE & HEALTHY COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 16 JUNE 2022**

Read: Action sheet of the Active & Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on Monday 16 June 2022. **(Copy circulated).**

In response to a query from Councillor McKeivitt, Mrs Hillen advised that Council had agreed a timeline, budget and process for taking Warrenpoint Community Centre to the planning stage. She advised a consultant team had been appointed with officers meeting the team twice a month and that an update on all capital projects would be presented to the DEA meetings over the next few months to allow for a more comprehensive update to Members.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Sharvin, seconded by Councillor McEvoy, to note the Action Sheet of the Active and Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on Monday 16 June 2022.

PRESENTATIONS

AHC/107/2022: **OUTDOOR RECREATION NORTHERN IRELAND (ORNI) SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT**

Read: Presentation from Outdoor Recreation Northern Ireland (ORNI) Service Level Agreement

The Chairperson welcomed Ms Caro-Lynn Ferris from Outdoor Recreation Northern Ireland to the meeting and invited her to make her presentation.

Ms Ferris thanked the Chairperson for the welcome and provided an update on the outputs of the Service Level Agreement for 2021-22 (copy presentation attached to these minutes). Ms Ferris outlined the following work that had been completed over the last year:

- New trail development at Glasswater Wood, Glendesha Forest and Windmill Hill and Lough Park.
- Improvement works at Drumkeeragh and Tievenadarragh Forests
- 'Shovel Ready' status for 2 community trails
- Feasibility assessments for an additional 4 community trails
- Monitoring of visitors to 11 community trails
- Hilltown pump track development

Ms Ferris advised the total spend across the previous year was £716,000 on community trails across the District and stated there were 13 community trails in place, and in conjunction with the Council, they were constantly trying to develop trails within their community trail plan. She stated across the community trails from April 2021-March 2022 there were 208,891 visits made by members of the public. With regard to the pump track in Hilltown, she advised when officers visited the location, they discovered it wasn't the most

suitable and therefore were progressing work with finding an alternative location for this pump track.

The Chairperson thanked Ms Ferris for her presentation and invited questions from Members. Members asked the following questions:

- When would the additional carparking spaces be available at Drumkeeragh and Tievenadarragh as there had been a few parking issues at these locations?
- Congratulate ORNI on the work completed across the District.
- Daisy Hill Wood figures only for a 6 month period, keen to know how widely used. Issues with vandalism on the trails which is unfortunate. Would there be any figures on hand as to how widely used?
- Why was the location not correct for the pump track in Hilltown?
- Realistically what was the position with Bright GAC, Teconnaught GAC and Inch Abbey in terms of getting agreement with the clubs and getting the designs to planning application stage in order to get them submitted?
- ORNI asked to complete beach access survey – how many of the beaches had been assessed and what key themes exist in terms of access to beaches?

Ms Ferris responded to the queries as follows:

- Tievenadarragh carpark should be open at present, and the letter of offer was only received by Council last week with regard to Drumkeeragh,
- Figures for usage of Daisy Hill Wood for 6 months were 8435 visits to the site.
- Although do not know the full background to the project, when staff went to consider the site it wasn't deemed appropriate as it was very close to houses. Happy to revert to the Councillor on the matter.
- Staff working on taking Bright GAC, Teconnaught GAC and Inch Abbey to 'shovel-ready'. Community trails could now realistically take 9-10 months and it was not possible to complete planning and delivery in one year.
- All beaches across the Council have had their site assessment completed and staff were developing maps and criteria as to what would make beaches accessible. Content to come back to report to AHC Committee at a later date.

In response to a query from Councillor McKeivitt, Mr Tamati advised the budget for the scoping work and planning permission for the pump track at Hilltown had been secured, as with all ORNI SLA projects external funding would need to be secured for the delivery element of these projects and ORNI explore opportunities for securing that external funding.

Agreed:

It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor McKeivitt, seconded by Councillor Tinnelly to table the issue of Hilltown Pump Track onto a future Crotlieve DEA forum meeting to ensure all possible locations in Hilltown were exhausted and if not feasible, that other locations in the DEA be investigated, potentially beside the mountain bike trails in Kilbroney.

FOR CONSIDERATION AND/OR DECISION

AHC/108/2022: TIERED INSURANCE LEVELS FOR COUNCIL HIRERS (PUBLIC LIABILITY & PRODUCT LIABILITY)

Read: Report dated 20 June 2022 from Mrs K McNiff, SHEP Manager regarding Tiered Insurance Levels for Council Hirers (Public Liability & Product Liability) **(Copy circulated)**

Councillor Sharvin queried whether the tiers within the report were recommended by Council's insurers or was there an opportunity that e.g. bouncy castles/inflatables could be a lesser amount than £10m. It may not be feasible to ask someone to have £10m public liability insurance just to hire a Council facility with a bouncy castle. He stated that a child could break a limb on a bouncy castle, however, they may be as likely to do the same playing sports which was not considered such high risk.

Mr Lipsett advised the insurance broker had not said which activity should be listed under each category but had highlighted, in conjunction with officers, what they considered to be riskier activities. He stated, however that it was for Council to decide how much risk it was prepared to take. The report would also be tabled at SPR however it was felt that it should be tabled at AHC also as it was likely to be the department that would be impacted the most.

Mr Tamati advised that in his experience accidents on bouncy castles happen often and it was an inherent risk regardless of what mitigating factors were in place.

In response to a query from Councillor Tinnelly, Mr Tamati advised a challenge, particularly during Covid, was that the Council's insurance policy was £10m regardless of whether it was hire of a meeting room or a fireworks display, therefore the tiered system was a better position for those looking to hire Council facilities.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor O'Hare, seconded by Councillor Gallagher, to approve Appendix 1 – adoption of a tiered level of indemnity insurance for 3rd party hirers/users Council-wide.

DIRECTORS PAPERS

AHC/109/2022: ACTIVE AND HEALTHY COMMUNITIES BUSINESS PLAN

Read: Report dated 20 June 2022 from Mr M Lipsett, Director of Active and Healthy Communities regarding, Active and Healthy Communities Business Plan **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Lewis, seconded by Councillor McEvoy to agree the following:

- **Assessment of the Active & Healthy Community Directorate Business Plan 2021-22;**
- **Active & Healthy Community Directorate Business Plan 2022-23**

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

AHC/110/2022: PEACE IV UPDATE

Read: Report dated 20 June 2022 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement regarding Peace IV Update (**Copy circulated**)

In response to a query from Councillor Sharvin, Mrs Hillen advised she would circulate the list of locations for the Multi-Cultural Summer Schemes to all members of the Committee.

Agreed: It was agreed that Mrs Hillen would circulate the list of locations for the Multi-Cultural Summer Scheme to all Members.

On the proposal of Councillor Sharvin, seconded by Councillor O'Hare the recommendations of the PEACE IV Partnership were agreed as per 2.1 of the officer's report.

AHC/111/2022: DISTRICT ELECTORAL AREA (DEA) FORUMS UPDATE REPORT

Read: Report dated 20 June 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 Sharvin, seconded by Councillor Gallagher to note the report and approve the actions for:

- **Mournes DEA Forum Private Meeting held on Wednesday 25 May 2022;**
- **Rowallane DEA Forum Private Meeting held on Wednesday 1 June 2022;**
- **Slieve Gullion DEA Forum Private Meeting held on Tuesday 31st May 2022.**

AHC/112/2022 COMMUNITY CO-ORDINATION HUB – UPDATE REPORT

Read: Report dated 16 May 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 Harte, 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 18 May 2022.

HEALTH AND WELLBEING

AHC/113/2022

SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE FORUM – 19 MAY 2022

Read: Report dated 20 June 2022 from Mr E Devlin, Assistant Director Health & Wellbeing regarding Sustainability and Climate Change Forum (Copy circulated)

Agreed: **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Tinnelly, seconded by Councillor Harte, to note the report and approve the action contained within the action sheet from the Sustainability & Climate Change Forum which took place on Thursday 19 May 2022.**

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

AHC/114/2022

SPORTS FACILITY STRATEGY/SPORTS HUB REVIEW

Agreed: **On the proposal of Councillor Sharvin, seconded by Councillor Tinnelly, 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 20 June 2022 from Mr P Tamati, Assistant Director, Leisure and Sport regarding Sports Facilities Strategy – Multi Sports Hubs Review. (Copy circulated)

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

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

- **The Executive Summary and Strategic Recommendations of the completed Sports Facilities Strategy - Multi Sports Hubs Review.**
- **To support the Strategic Recommendations of the Sports Facilities Strategy - Multi Sports Hubs Review as per 4.1 of the officer's report.**

COUNCILLOR TINNELLY LEFT THE MEETING AT THIS STAGE – 7.14pm

AHC/115/2022

**WATER BILL CULLYHANNA GFC/CULLYHANNA
COMMUNITY CENTRE**

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Sharvin, seconded by Councillor Tinnelly, 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 20 June 2022 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement regarding Water Bill Cullyhanna GFC/Cullyhanna Community Centre. (Copy circulated)

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

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor McEvoy, seconded by Councillor Sharvin to approve the following:

- To pay a one-off contribution to Cullyhanna GFC towards the water bill.
- To appoint a contractor to carry out the necessary works to separate the water supply between Cullyhanna GFC and Cullyhanna Community Centre.

AHC/116/2022

MARKET HOUSE REFURBISHMENT

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Sharvin, seconded by Councillor Tinnelly, 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 20 June 2022 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement regarding Internal Refurbishment of the Market House, Ballynahinch (Copy circulated)

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

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Sharvin, seconded by Councillor Gallagher to approve the following:

- The business case contained within the officer's report for the internal refurbishment of the Market House Ballynahinch (Appendix 1 Business Case)
- To procure and appoint a contractor to carry out the refurbishment works immediately (in advance of full council approval in July)

AHC/117/2022

UPDATE ON DELIVERY OF AFFORDABLE WARMTH SCHEME

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Sharvin, seconded by Councillor Tinnelly, 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 20 June 2022 from Mr E Devlin, Assistant Director, Health and Wellbeing regarding Update on Delivery of Affordable Warmth Scheme (Copy circulated)

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

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor McEvoy, seconded by Councillor O'Hare, to approve the signing of the Service Level Agreement with Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council in relation to the provision of the Affordable Warmth Scheme.

It was further agreed on the proposal of Councillor Casey, seconded by Councillor Harte to write to the Minister of the Department for Communities to investigate the possibility, in the absence of a functioning executive, of additional funding to offset the shortfall in the Affordable Warmth Scheme

COUNCILLOR HARTE LEFT THE MEETING AT THIS STAGE HAVING PREVIOUSLY DECLARED AN INTEREST – 7.24pm

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

AHC/118/2022

UPDATE REPORT ON UPGRADE WORKS AT BARCROFT AND THREE WAYS COMMUNITY CENTRE

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Sharvin, seconded by Councillor Tinnelly, 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 20 June 2022 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement regarding Update Report on Upgrade Works at Barcroft and Three Ways Community Centre (Copy circulated)

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

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Casey, seconded by Councillor O'Hare, to note the revised estimated costs for completion of upgrade works to Barcroft and Three Ways Community Centres from previously approved Business Case (January 2022), subject to consultation with the user groups in the centre.

COUNCILLOR HARTE RE-ENTERED THE MEETING AT THIS STAGE – 7.33pm

FOR NOTING – COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

AHC/119/2022 **DOWNPATRICK NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL PARTNERSHIP (NRP) REPORT**

Read: Report dated 20 June 2022 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement regarding Downpatrick Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership (NRO) Report (copy circulated)

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Sharvin, seconded by Councillor McEvoy to note the contents of the report and the minutes of the Downpatrick Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership (NRP) Meeting held on Tuesday 18 January 2022.

AHC/120/2022 **SUMMER ACTIVITY PROGRAMME**

Read: Report dated 20 June 2022 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement regarding the Summer Activity Programme. (copy circulated)

In response to a query from Councillor Sharvin, officers advised they would investigate mid-year budgets in order to operate similar schemes at Halloween and Christmas holiday periods.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Sharvin, seconded by Councillor McEvoy to note the planned Summer Scheme activities within the Community Services Department.

AHC/121/2022 **POLICING & COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP (PCSP) REPORT**

Read: Report dated 20 June 2022 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement regarding the Policing & Community Safety Partnership (PCSP). (copy circulated)

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Sharvin, seconded by Councillor McEvoy to note the report and the Minutes of the Policing Committee & PCSP Meetings held on Tuesday 22nd March 2022 and Tuesday 24th May 2022.

AHC/122/2022 **UKRAINE ASSISTANCE CENTRE UPDATE**

Read: Report dated 20 June 2022 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement regarding an update on Ukraine Assistance Centre. (copy circulated)

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Sharvin, seconded by Councillor McEvoy to note the contents of the report.

AHC/123/2022 **PEACE PLUS UPDATE**

Read: Report dated 20 June 2022 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement regarding Peace Plus. (copy circulated)

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Sharvin, seconded by Councillor McEvoy to note the contents of the report.

FOR NOTING

AHC/124/2022 **LETTER FROM TEO PERMANENT SECRETARY RE: UKRAINE ASSISTANCE CENTRES**

Read: Letter dated 26 May 2022 from The Executive Office Permanent Secretary Dr Denis McMahon, regarding Ukraine Assistance Centres (copy circulated)

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Sharvin, seconded by Councillor McEvoy to note the contents of the letter.

It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Lewis, seconded by Councillor Gallagher to write to The

Executive Office to request the payment of £350 for those assisting with the Ukrainian Refugees.

AHC/125/2022

LETTER FROM PRIVATE OFFICE, DEPARTMENT FOR COMMUNITIES RE: MEETING TO DISCUSS CHILD POVERTY

Read: Letter dated 25 May 2022 from Private Secretary, Louise Anderson, Department for Communities regarding Meeting to Discuss Child Poverty (copy circulated)

Agreed: **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Sharvin, seconded by Councillor McEvoy to note the contents of the letter.**

There being no further business the meeting ended at 7.38pm.

Signed: Councillor H Gallagher
Chairperson

Signed: Michael Lipsett
Director Active and Healthy Communities