

NEWRY, MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Ref: AHC/2022

Minutes of Active and Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on Monday 21 February 2022 at 6.00pm in the Mourne Room, Downshire Estate and via Microsoft Teams

Chairperson: Councillor K McKevitt (Chamber)

**In attendance in
Chamber:**

Councillor Casey
Councillor Harte
Councillor Walker

Councillor Gallagher
Councillor A Lewis

In attendance via Teams:

Councillor A Finnegan
Councillor L McEvoy
Councillor B Ó Muirí
Councillor J Tinnelly

Councillor G Malone
Councillor G O'Hare
Councillor G Sharvin

**Also in attendance via
Teams:**

Councillor T Andrews
Councillor H McKee

Councillor Brown

**Officials in attendance
In Chamber:**

Mr E Devlin, Assistant Director Health and Wellbeing
Ms S Taggart, Democratic Services Manager (Acting)

**Officials in attendance
Via Teams:**

Mr M Lipsett, Director Active and Healthy Communities
Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director Community Engagement
Ms N Largey, Legal Services
Mrs D Starkey, Democratic Services Officer
Mrs L O'Hare, Democratic Services Officer

AHC/028/2022:

APOLOGIES & CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

Apologies were received from Councillors McMurray and Trainor and Mr Tamati, Assistant Director Leisure and Sport.

The Chairperson paid her respects to the family of Christopher Stalford and DUP Members on his untimely death and said everyone's thoughts were with them all at this very difficult time.

The Chairperson paid tribute on the passing of Marie Grant, a founding member of Forkhill Community Association and one of the main lobbyists to have the old Courthouse in Forkhill made into the original Community Centre in 1983 and for a new facility which was opened by Council in 1994. Marie was also a founding member of Forkhill Playgroup and South Armagh

Rural Women's Network and remained an active member of all committees until her death. The Chairperson asked that a letter of condolence be sent to her sister Ann Grant extending our sympathies to her and her brothers Peter, Paul and Joe.

The Chairperson asked that a letter of congratulations be sent to Kilcoo GAC on winning the All-Ireland Club Football Final, an unbelievable achievement which had given everyone a great lift.

AHC/029/2021: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

AHC/030/2022: ACTION SHEET OF THE ACTIVE & HEALTHY COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 24 JANUARY 2022

Read: Action sheet of the Active & Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on Monday 24 January 2022. **(Copy circulated)**.

AHC/231/2021: Notice of Motion – Accessibility onto beaches in Northern Ireland

Councillor Sharvin enquired if the reason for it not being picked up yet was that the new Service Level Agreement was due May/June 2022.

Mr Lipsett explained the reason it was listed for May/June 2022 was that the new Service Level Agreement was due to be completed with Outdoor Recreation NI at that time. He added it was going to cost additional money to carry out work on Council's behalf and that this was agreed in the rates process and included in next years budget. He added he was happy to have discussions with ORNI about commencing work early and that it was his understanding that they had already visited beaches as part of the cost estimate for the Service Level Agreement.

Mr Lipsett informed Councillor Brown he would contact him directly regarding his request for an update on Mid Down Integrated College as he had been off in recent weeks.

In response to Councillor Brown's request regarding the reopening of the vitality suite at Down Leisure Centre, Mr Lipsett confirmed that given the easing of restrictions it was the intention to open all facilities subject to updating renewed risk assessments by 1 March 2022. He continued that while Covid Risk Assessments were no longer a legal requirement the Council still had a legal responsibility to ensure the safety of users and staff and were still obliged to carry out Risk Assessments for their centres / facilities which must include all risks including Covid 19. These Risk Assessments may well highlight areas of improvements to be made and therefore not all centres will fully reopen at the same time.

Councillor Harte and Casey expressed concern on behalf of community associations in relation to reopening and loss of revenue and the ability to have birthday parties with bouncy castles and such like. Mr Lipsett explained bouncy castles were slightly different and that it was not just covid related but also the increased frequency of cleaning, staffing and insurance requirements. He reiterated that it was the intention to have all facilities open by 1 March 2022.

Mrs Hillen informed Members Council had a Play Inflatables Policy and there was a need to use a risk based approach.

Mrs Hillen advised she would investigate and find out what the problems were for community running facilities and staffing matters for Council managed facilities and come back to Members.

Agreed: **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Ó Muirí to note the Action Sheet of the Active and Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on Monday 24 January 2022.**

AHC/031/2022: NOTICE OF MOTION – FEMALE SELF DEFENCE

The following Notice of Motion was received from Councillor Malone:

"After the shocking murder of Ashling Murphy in Tullamore I am requesting that Newry Mourne and Down District Council organise and advertise Female Self Defence Courses in all local Leisure Centres, Community facilities etc to increase the confidence of our local female population. These courses could provide much needed expertise to females, which they can utilise to maybe save their or other individuals lives if they find themselves in difficult situations."

The motion was seconded by Councillor Harte.

Councillor Malone acknowledged that Council had already started the self defence classes.

The Chairperson advised Newry, Mourne and Down District Council had been the first Council to set up a Woman's Working Group across the 11 Councils and brilliant work had been undertaken including self defence classes.

The Chairperson asked that given that classes were already taking place if Councillor Malone would accept an amendment. She stated that given that education was paramount in the treatment of women and all that goes with that, if officers could investigate the possibility of an education awareness programme for men through Council centres.

Councillors Malone and Harte accepted Councillor McKeivitt's amendment.

Councillor Sharvin welcomed the education part to the motion and asked that the self defence classes and the educational awareness be worked in every DEA throughout the District.

Agreed: **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Malone, seconded by Councillor Harte to continue with self defence classes and that officers investigate the possibility of an education awareness programme for men through Council Centres.**

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

AHC/032/2022: DISTRICT ELECTORAL AREA (DEA) FORUMS UPDATE REPORT

Read: Report dated 21 February 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 Lewis, to note the report and approve the actions in the action sheets attached to the officer's report for:

- Rowallane DEA Forum Private Meeting held on Friday 21 January 2022.
- Crotlieve DEA Forum Private Meeting held on Tuesday 25 January 2022.
- Slieve Gullion DEA Forum Private Meeting held on Tuesday 25 January 2022.
- The Mournes DEA Forum Private Meeting held on Wednesday 26 January 2022.
- Downpatrick DEA Forum Private Meeting held on Tuesday 8 February 2022.

AHC/033/2022 COMMUNITY COORDINATION HUB – UPDATE REPORT

Read: Report dated 21 February 2022 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement regarding an update report for the Community Coordination Hub. **(Copy circulated)**

In response for clarification from Councillor Sharvin regarding social supermarkets, Mrs Hillen advised there were detailed discussions with DfC on social supermarkets within the District and an approach across the 11 Councils. Mrs Hillen said it was pleasing that DfC was not prescribing a certain model for social supermarkets but rather working on something to support the networks that already existed.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor O'Hare, seconded by Councillor Gallagher to note the report and approve the actions in the Action Sheet attached for the Community Coordination Hub (CCH) Meeting held on Wednesday 19 January 2022.

AHC/034/2022 COMMUNITY CENTRE SCALE OF CHARGES

Read: Report dated 21 February 2022 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement regarding scale of charges for Community Centres. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Ó Muirí, seconded by Councillor Gallagher, to approve maintaining the hire charge pricing that had been adopted for the 2021/22 financial year for a further year.

AHC/035/2022

SAINTFIELD COMMUNITY GARDEN

Read: Report dated 21 February 2022 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement regarding Saintfield Community Garden.
(Copy circulated)

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Sharvin, to approve and agree to progress:

- Approval for Saintfield Community Trust (SCT) to develop a community garden at the rear of Building B Saintfield Community Centre.
- Update the SCT Facility Management Agreement to include the proposed new Community Garden (subject to confirmation of appropriate planning approvals, if required).

AHC/036/2022

PCSP PROCUREMENT (HOME SECURE SERVICE)

Read: Report dated 21 February 2022 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement regarding PCSP Home Secure Scheme for 2022/23. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Sharvin, to note the report and approve the procurement for the PCSP Home Secure Scheme for 2022/23 (with an option to extend the contract for a further 12 months in 2023/24 subject to funding being available and satisfactory contract delivery).

LEISURE AND SPORT

AHC/037/2022

LEISURE AND SPORTS SCALE OF CHARGES 2022/23

Read: Report dated 21 February 2022 from Mr P Tamati, Assistant Director Leisure and Sport, regarding scale of charges for Leisure and Sports.
(Copy circulated)

In welcoming the freeze on charges Councillor Sharvin asked for clarification regarding an apparent reduction under the gold singular facility section on last year's membership charge. Mr Lipsett explained that since 2015/16 charges across leisure facilities were being aligned and that is reflected in the proposed new charges for the 2022/23.

Councillor Ó Muirí took the opportunity to congratulate the Director on leisure and sport facilities and community centres not having to face increases in charges.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Harte, seconded by Councillor Ó Muirí to approve the proposed scale of charges for Leisure and Sports Section for 2022/23 commencing the 1 April 2022 as per appendix 1.

AHC/038/2022

COMMUNITY ASSET TRANSFER

Read: Report dated 21 February 2022 from Mr M Lipsett, Director Active and Healthy Communities, regarding Community Asset Transfer (CAT) – Mount Crescent, Downpatrick . **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Sharvin, seconded by Councillor Casey to approve acting as a Sponsoring Body for the potential development of a Wellness Centre at 9-11 Mount Crescent, Downpatrick.

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

AHC/039/2022

APPLICATION FOR THE RENEWAL OF A LICENCE TO OPERATE A HOUSE OF MULTIPLE OCCUPATION AT 8 ST MARY STREET, NEWRY, BT34 2AA

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Gallagher, seconded by Councillor Lewis, 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 21 February 2022 from Mr Bloomfield, NIHMO Manager, regarding an application for the renewal of a licence to operate a house of multiple occupation at 8 St Mary Street, Newry, BT34 2AA. **(Copy circulated)**

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

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Ó Muirí, seconded by Councillor Casey to grant the licence for one year as per the terms outlined in the attached Notice of Decision.

AHC/040/2022

PUBLIC TENDER – PROGRAMME DELIVERY PROGRAMME

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Gallagher, seconded by Councillor Lewis, 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 21 February 2022 from Mr P Tamati, Assistant Director, Leisure and Sport regarding a Public Tender for a Programme Delivery Partner to assist with the delivery of Leisure and Sport programme initiatives. **(Copy circulated)**

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

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Ó Muirí, seconded by Councillor Sharvin to agree to a Public Tender and appointment for up to 3 years for a Leisure and Sport Programme Delivery Partner, subject to annual rates estimates provisions and approve the Business Case for this Public Tender as per appendix 1 of the report and Council's procurement policy.

AHC/041/2022

SPEEDING ISSUES ADJACENT TO SCHOOLS

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Gallagher, seconded by Councillor Lewis, 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 21 February 2022 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement regarding speeding issues adjacent to schools. **(Copy circulated)**

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

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Ó Muirí, seconded by Councillor McKeivitt to note the report and forward for consideration at the next Council/Dfl meeting.

Councillor Ó Muirí left the meeting at this point – 6.43pm.

AHC/042/2022

HEALTH AND SAFETY REVIEW – INDOOR LEISURE: SLIPS, TRIPS AND FALLS

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Gallagher, seconded by Councillor Lewis, 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 21 February 2022 from Mr P Tamati, Assistant Director, Leisure and Sport regarding an independent Health and Safety Review of slips, trips and falls for indoor leisure facilities. **(Copy circulated)**

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

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor McKeivitt, seconded by Councillor Gallagher, to note the officer's report and that an independent health and safety review of slips, trips and falls for indoor leisure facilities would be commissioned.

FOR NOTING

AHC/043/2022

HOUSING SUPPLY STRATEGY (2022- 2037) CONSULTATION RESPONSE

Read: Report dated 21 February 2022 from Mr M Lipsett, Director of Active and Healthy Communities regarding a consultation response for the Department for Communities House Supply Strategy, 2022-2037.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Harte, seconded by Councillor Sharvin note Newry, Mourne and Down District Council's response to the Housing Supply Strategy Consultation (DfC).

AHC/044/2022

DEFIBRILLATOR PROVISION UPDATE

Read: Report dated 21 February 2022 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director Community Engagement regarding progress on the Notice of Motion in relation to Defibrillators.

In response to a query from Councillor Sharvin, Mr Devlin confirmed that any additional information regarding defibrillator locations could be forwarded to him for the list to be updated.

Mr Devlin informed Members that since the report was tabled Council had appointed a company to run health and safety courses for community organisations and that defibrillator

and first aid courses were part of that.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Harte, seconded by Councillor Sharvin to note the update report on defibrillator provision.

AHC/045/2022 **SOCIAL INVESTMENT FUND – CAPITAL**

Read: Report dated 21 February 2022 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director Community Engagement regarding Social Investment Fund, Capital.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Harte, seconded by Councillor Sharvin to note the report and minutes from the SIF Board Meeting on 13 December 2021.

AHC/046/2022 **DFC FAIR FUNDING - RING FENCED WELFARE REFORM ADVICE POSTS**

Read: Report dated 21 February 2022 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director Community Engagement regarding DFC Fair Funding, ring fenced Welfare Reform Advice Posts.

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

AHC/047/2022 **POLICING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP (PCSP) REPORT**

Read: Report dated 21 February 2022 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director Community Engagement regarding the Policing and Community Safety Partnership (PCSP) report.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Harte, seconded by Councillor Sharvin to note the report and the Minutes of the Policing Committee & PCSP Meeting held on Thursday 30 November 2021, approved at the Policing Committee & PCSP Meeting on Tuesday 25 January 2022.

AHC/048/2022 **NEWRY NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL PARTNERSHIP (NRP) REPORT**

Read: Report dated 21 February 2022 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director Community Engagement regarding the Newry Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership (NRP) report.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Harte, seconded by Councillor Sharvin to note the report and the Minutes of Newry NRP Meeting held on Wednesday 24

November 2021, approved at Newry NRP Meeting held on Wednesday 2 February 2022.

AHC/049/2022

DOWNPATRICK NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL PARTNERSHIP (NRP) REPORT

Read: Report dated 21 February 2022 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director Community Engagement regarding the Downpatrick Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership (NRP) report.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Harte, seconded by Councillor Sharvin to note the attached Minutes of the Downpatrick NRP Meeting held on Tuesday 14 September 2021, approved at Downpatrick NRP Meeting held on Tuesday 18 January 2022 and to note the Downpatrick NRP Action Plan for 2019-2022 (updated September 2021).

There being no further business the meeting ended at 6.51pm.

Signed: Councillor K McKevitt
Chairperson

Signed: Michael Lipsett
Director Active and Healthy Communities