

NEWRY, MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Ref: AHC/2024

**Minutes of Active and Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on
Tuesday 19 March 2024 at 6.00pm in the Mourne Room, Downshire Civic
Centre and via Microsoft Teams**

Chairperson: Councillor O Magennis (Chamber)

In attendance in Chamber: Councillor L Devlin Councillor D Finn
Councillor A Finnegan Councillor C Galbraith
Councillor A Lewis Councillor A Mathers
Councillor A McMurray Councillor D Murphy
Councillor K Murphy Councillor S O'Hare

Officials in Chamber: Mr A Patterson, Director, Active and Healthy Communities
Mr P Tamati, Assistant Director, Leisure and Sport
Mrs D Starkey, Democratic Services Officer

Official on Teams: Ms S Taggart, Democratic Services Manager (Acting)

AHC/022/2024: APOLOGIES & CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

In the absence of the Committee Chairperson Councillor Howell, Deputy Chairperson Councillor Magennis assumed the Chair.

Apologies were received from Councillors Howell, Jackson and Lee-Surginor and Mrs A Robb, Assistant Director, Community Development.

The Chairperson congratulated all the winners from the Newry, Mourne and Down Sports Awards event held on 8 March 2024.

AHC/023/2024: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

**AHC/024/2024: ACTION SHEET ARISING FROM ACTIVE & HEALTHY
COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 19 FEBRUARY
2024**

Read: Action sheet of the Active & Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on Monday 19 February 2024. **(Copy circulated)**.

AHC/020/2024: Living High Street, Newcastle
Councillor Devlin expressed concern at negative comments on social media regarding this issue and asked Mr Tamati to reconfirm the detail provided at previous Committee Meetings. Councillor Devlin also took the opportunity to thank officers for securing the funding and

reiterated that this was an additionality and was not withstanding the need for a replacement Leisure Centre for Newcastle.

Mr Tamati advised the funding received from the Living High Street Scheme was very welcome and had been done in partnership with Newcastle Chamber of Commerce which would allow temporary use of the space bringing significant benefit to the town, particularly with big events such as the Irish Golf Open.

Mr Tamati added the Newcastle Leisure Centre project was a key action on the Council's Corporate Plan and would continue to progress towards that. He advised that officers planned to bring an updated Outline Business Case back to elected members. He assured Members that the Leisure Centre was a priority project for Council and use of the space was temporary.

Agreed: **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor O'Hare, seconded by Councillor Devlin, to note the Action Sheet of the Active and Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on Monday 19 February 2024.**

AHC/025/2023: REVISED REPORT ON PLAYING FIELDS AT CARRIGENAGH ROAD, KILKEEL

Read: Report dated 19 March 2024 from Mr P Tamati, Assistant Director, Leisure and Sport regarding Playing Fields at Carrigenagh Road, Kilkeel. **(Copy circulated)**

Mr Tamati reminded Members a previous report regarding these playing fields had been tabled at the Committee Meeting in February 2024 with members requiring clarification regarding the request. Officers had since re-engaged with the respective clubs and a revised map as per appendix 1 of the officer's report was proposed as part of the expression of interest process.

Agreed: **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Lewis, seconded by Councillor Devlin, to commence and progress through the various stages Council's Sport and Leasing Policy 2016 in relation to Playing Fields at Carrigenagh Road, Kilkeel.**

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

Agreed: **On the proposal of Councillor Finn, seconded by Councillor O'Hare, it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on items 11 to 14, which related to exempt information by virtue of para. Three 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 O'Hare, seconded by Councillor Finnegan, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.

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

AHC/026/2024: **WARRENPOINT HEALTH AND WELLBEING HUB – EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST**

Read: Report dated 19 March 2024 from Mrs A Robb, Assistant Director, Community Development presented by Mr A Patterson regarding expressions of interest in respect of the Warrenpoint Health and Wellbeing Hub.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor K Murphy, seconded by Councillor McMurray, to approve the following:

- To open a call for expressions of interest for the area identified in Appendix 1 of the report in line with Council's Policy and Procedures on Sports and Community Facility Management and Leasing.
- To obtain a valuation for the site for the purposes of a long-term lease.

AHC/027/2024: **EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST LAND LEASING REPORT - BESSBROOK FOOTBALL FIELD, ORIEL PARK**

Read: Report dated 19 March 2024 from Mr P Tamati, Assistant Director, Leisure and Sport regarding an update on expressions of interest received for the leasing of land and facilities as per the Sport and Community Leasing Policy 2016 in respect of Bessbrook Football Field, Oriel Park.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor D Murphy, seconded by Councillor Finnegan, to note the contents of the officer's report and that Expressions of Interest for land and facilities will progress to stage 3 of the Sport and Leasing Policy 2016 in relation to Bessbrook Football Field, Oriel Park.

AHC/028/2024: **NEWRY SWIMMING POOL**

Read: Report dated 19 March 2024 from Mr A Patterson, Director of Active and Healthy Communities, regarding Newry Swimming Pool.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor D Murphy, seconded by Councillor Galbraith to approve the recommendation outlined within the officer's report to progress remedial works at the Newry Leisure Centre pool.

FOR NOTING

AHC/029/2024: DISTRICT ELECTORAL AREA (DEA) FORUMS UPDATE

Read: Report dated 19 March 2024 from Mrs A Robb, Assistant Director, Community Development regarding an update on the District Electoral Area Forums. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Lewis, seconded by Councillor Galbraith, to note the officer's report and the update on recent DEA activity and planned activity to be undertaken by the DEAs. It was also agreed to approve the actions in the Action Sheets attached for Slieve Croob DEA Forum Private Meeting held on Tuesday 27 February 2024.**

AHC/030/2024: AREA INTEGRATED PARTNERSHIP BOARD

Read: Report dated 19 March 2024 from Mrs A Robb, Assistant Director, Community Development regarding Area Integrated Partnership Board **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Lewis, seconded by Councillor Galbraith, to note the report on Area Integrated Partnership Board.**

There being no further business the meeting ended at 6.34pm.

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

Signed: Councillor Magennis
Chairperson

Signed: Andrew Patterson
Director Active and Healthy Communities