

**NEWRY, MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Ref: AHC/2023

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**Minutes of Active and Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on  
Monday 20 February 2023 at 6.00pm in the Mourne Room, Downshire Civic  
Centre and via Microsoft Teams**

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**Chairperson:** Councillor H Gallagher (Chamber)

**In attendance in Chamber:** Councillor J Brennan  
Councillor J Jackson  
Councillor A Lewis  
Councillor D McAteer  
Councillor G Sharvin

**In attendance via Teams:** Councillor C King  
Councillor D Lee- Surginor  
Councillor L McEvoy  
Councillor K McKeivitt  
Councillor G O'Hare  
Councillor B Ó Muirí  
Councillor J Tinnelly

**Non-Members  
in attendance on Teams:** Councillor T Andrews  
Councillor D Curran

**Officials in attendance  
in Chamber:**

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  
Mrs D Starkey, Democratic Services Officer

**Officials in attendance  
via Teams:**

Ms L Cummins, Democratic Services Officer

**AHC/013/2023:           APOLOGIES & CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS**

An apology was received from Councillor Malone.

The Chairperson congratulated the Clanrye Group on receiving the Community Wellbeing Award at the Pride of Place Awards in Dublin, having been nominated by Newry Mourne and Down District Council for their outstanding contribution to community wellbeing throughout the District.

The Chairperson congratulated Jarlath Burns on being elected as GAA President.

The Joseph Ferris Martial Arts Academy Bryansford and Downpatrick were congratulated on attending the Savate Kick Boxing Open in Budapest recently.

The Chairperson welcomed the £126,000 from the levelling up fund for the Kilbroney Trails.

Members were reminded the Newry, Mourne and Down Sports Awards were taking place on 9 March 2023 in the Canal Court, Newry.

**AHC/014/2023:           DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**AHC/015/2023:           ACTION SHEET ARISING FROM ACTIVE & HEALTHY COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 23 JANUARY 2023**

Read:                           Action sheet of the Active & Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on Monday 23 January 2023. **(Copy circulated).**

In response to a query from Councillor Jackson regarding upgrading of lighting at Saintfield Hockey Pitches, Mr Tamati advised he was aware of discussions and contact had been made with the Maintenance Department. Mr Tamati advised he would touch base with Councillor Jackson following the meeting.

Councillor McAteer enquired about the timescales for the McGrath Centre to which Mrs Hillen confirmed final lease arrangements had been put in place with the legal department and whilst listed as ongoing, it was near completion.

**Agreed:                           It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Sharvin, seconded by Councillor McKevitt to note the Action Sheet of the Active and Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on Monday 23 January 2023.**

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

### **AHC/016/2023: UPDATE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE - CALL 1 AND 2**

Read: Report dated 20 February 2023 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement regarding Financial Assistance. **(Copy circulated)**

At the request of the Chairperson, it was agreed on the approval of Councillor Lewis, seconded by Councillor McAteer to discuss a query in relation to a current application in closed session later in the meeting.

In welcoming the successful applications, Councillor Sharvin referred to those that did not meet the criteria, in particular summer scheme applications, and enquired if there was an opportunity to review issues faced by groups.

Mrs Hillen advised there was an allocated budget against each scheme and when the budget was exceeded it moved to score and rank and that Councillors were aware each year some themes were oversubscribed. Mrs Hillen further advised there were pre-funding workshops with staff from the Programmes Unit in attendance to assist, and encouraged groups to attend these, especially those groups who may have been turned down a number of times.

Councillor O'Hare enquired if workshops were available prior to call 2. Mrs Hillen advised there were a number of workshops prior to call 1 but that she would check if there were further plans for a refresher prior to call 2.

Councillor Lewis asked how many of the unsuccessful groups sought a debrief with Council. Mrs Hillen advised she was unsure of the percentage but that it was a valid point and she would revert to Councillor Lewis on this.

In response to a point raised by Councillor McAteer in relation to why groups failed in terms of eligibility, Mrs Hillen advised there were a range of reasons as to why groups were unsuccessful and that as well as the assistance already outlined, local DEA Co-ordinators held a wealth of information regarding funding and were another source of support for groups.

**Agreed:** **It was agreed on the approval of Councillor Lewis, seconded by Councillor McAteer to discuss a query in relation to a current application in closed session later in the meeting.**

**It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Sharvin, seconded by Councillor Lee-Surginor to approve the following:**

- **Approve the attached appendices for revenue and capital projects and issue letter of offers post Council ratification and Call in.**
- **Pre-letter of offer conditions met prior to issue of full letter of offer issued and where this is not satisfied budget to be re-allocated.**
- **Finalise Audit checks for Call 1 and bring any changes back to Committee before issuing a letter of offer.**
- **Open Call 2 on 13th March 2023**

**AHC/017/2023: PEACE IV LOCAL ACTION PLAN**

**Read:** Report dated 20 February 2023 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 Ó Muirí, seconded by Councillor Sharvin, that the Committee agree to the recommendations of the PEACE IV Partnership as set out in 2.1 of the officer's report:

- To liaise with SEUPB to determine whether the proposed project can proceed given the new construction timescales proposed.
- Subject to funding confirmation, Council to proceed with procurement of a design team, submission of a planning application and procurement of a contractor.

**AHC/018/2023: ASYLUM DISPERSAL FUNDING**

**Read:** Report dated 20 February 2023 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement regarding Asylum Dispersal Funding. **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor McKeivitt, seconded by Councillor Lee-Surginor to approve the following:

- To use existing SLA arrangements to distribute funding to community/voluntary sector organisations through the Community Coordination Hub.
- To procure specialist & staffing resources for programmes supporting asylum seekers/refugees.

**AHC/019/2023: DISTRICT ELECTORAL AREA (DEA) FORUMS UPDATE REPORT**

**Read:** Report dated 20 February 2023 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement regarding an update on District Electoral Area Forums. **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Lewis, seconded by Councillor Brennan to note the report and approve the actions in the action sheets for the following:

- Rowallane DEA Forum Private Meeting held on Friday 27 January 2023.
- Mournes DEA Forum Private Meeting held on Tuesday 31 January 2023.
- Newry DEA Forum Private Meeting held on Thursday 9 February 2023.

**AHC/020/2023: COMMUNITY CO-ORDINATION HUB – UPDATE REPORT**

**Read:** Report dated 20 February 2023 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 Lewis, seconded by Councillor Brennan to note the report and approve the actions in the Action Sheet attached for the Community Coordination Hub (CCH) Meeting held on Wednesday 18 January 2023.

**HEALTH AND WELLBEING**

**AHC/021/2023: PRIVATE TENANCIES ACT - UPDATED POWERS**

**Read:** Report dated 20 February 2023 from Mr E Devlin, Assistant Director, Health & Wellbeing regarding Private Tenancies Act – Updated Powers. **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Lewis, seconded by Councillor McAteer to note the new legislative powers for Council’s in relation to the private rented sector and agree the proposed fixed penalty levels at £500.

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

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Brennan, seconded by Councillor Lee-Surginor it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on items 12-16 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 Lewis, seconded by Councillor McKevitt, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.

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

**AHC/022/2023**

**FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE DISCUSSION**

**Agreed:**

**It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Ó Muirí, seconded by Councillor Sharvin that a report be brought back to the Committee detailing the existing Financial Assistance policy, protocols for groups accessing funding and legal advice on the next course of action.**

**AHC/023/2023**

**LISNACREE COMMUNITY CENTRE – REMOVAL OF LEASE**

**Read:**

Report dated 20 February 2023 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Development regarding Lisnacree Community Centre – Removal of Lease. **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:**

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

- **Accept Lisnacree Community Associations letter and formally thank the association for the work they have done over the last 25 years.**
- **The termination of the lease between NM&DDC and the Diocese of Down for Lisnacree Community Centre**

**AHC/024/2023**

**EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR THE MARKET HOUSE, BALLYNAHINCH**

**Read:**

Report dated 20 February 2023 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Development regarding expressions of interest for the Market House, Ballynahinch. **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:**

**It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Lee-Surginor, seconded by Councillor Sharvin to approve the following recommendations:**

- **Publicly advertise a lease for the whole Market House, Ballynahinch**
- **SP&R to consider issue of lease following public process by TDK**
- **Officers to seek legal advice regarding adding social value criteria when considering expressions of interest.**

**AHC/025/2023**

**RECONFIGURATION OF BALLYNAHINCH COMMUNITY CENTRE  
– RIBA STAGE 2 CONCEPT DESIGN ADDITIONAL COSTS**

**Read:** Report dated 20 February 2023 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Development regarding the reconfiguration of Ballynahinch Community Centre, RIBA Stage 2 Concept Design Additional Costs .  
**(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Lee-Surginor, seconded by Councillor McAteer to approve the following recommendations:

- Approve, in principle, the additional spend (detailed in 2.1) on Base Cost Estimate as per Consultants RIBA Stage 2 Report within 2023/2024 capital rates estimates, subject to clarification from Estates department regarding the requirement for 10 additional carparking spaces.
- Approve an additional spend (detailed in 2.2) if required as a Risk Allowance Estimate as per Consultants RIBA Stage 2 Report within 2023/2024 capital rates estimates.

**AHC/026/2023**

**DONARD PARK – ARTIFICIAL PITCH UPGRADE**

**Read:** Report dated 20 February 2023 from Mr P Tamati, Assistant Director, Leisure and Sport regarding Donard Park, Artificial Pitch Upgrade .  
**(Copy circulated)**

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

- To progress the appointment of an integrated design team for the upgrade of the Donard Park Artificial Surface.
- To progress with the procurement and appointment of a contractor for this project on completion of integrated design team works, subject to appropriate budget provision.
- To approve the business case for this project as per appendix 2.

**FOR NOTING**

**AHC/027/2023**

**OPEN HOUSE PROGRAMME UPDATE REPORT**

Read: Report dated 20 February 2023 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Development and Mr E Devlin, Assistant Director, Health and Wellbeing regarding an update on the Open House Programme. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Lewis, seconded by Councillor Brennan to note the update report.**

**AHC/028/2023**

**PEACE PLUS LOCAL ACTION PLAN**

Read: Report dated 20 February 2023 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Development regarding Peace Plus Local Action Plan. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Lewis, seconded by Councillor Brennan to note the report and that two Social Partner vacancies would be publicly advertised due to inability to recruit through the community engagement process.**

**AHC/029/2023**

**POLICING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP (PCSP) REPORT**

Read: Report dated 20 February 2023 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Development regarding the Policing and Community Safety Partnership. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Lewis, seconded by Councillor Brennan to note the report and Minutes of the Policing Committee & PCSP Meeting held on Tuesday 29 November 2022, approved at the Policing Committee & PCSP Meeting on Tuesday 31 January 2023.**

**AHC/030/2023**

**NEWRY NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL PARTNERHIP (NRP) REPORT**

Read: Report dated 20 February 2023 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Development regarding the Newry Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Lewis, seconded by Councillor Brennan to note the report and the Minutes of Newry NRP Meeting held on Wednesday 23 November 2022, approved at Newry NRP Meeting held on Wednesday 18 January 2023.**

There being no further business the meeting ended at 7.12pm.

For adoption at the Council Meeting to be held on Monday 6 March 2023.

Signed: Councillor H Gallagher  
Chairperson

Signed: Michael Lipsett  
Director Active and Healthy Communities