

NEWRY, MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Ref: AHC/2018

Minutes of Active and Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on Thursday 22 March 2018 at 5.10pm in the Mourne Room, Downshire Civic Centre, Downpatrick

Chairperson: Councillor Walker – 5.10pm-6.16pm
Councillor Taylor – 6.16pm-6.29pm

In attendance: (Councillors)
Councillor Andrews Councillor Doran
Councillor Enright Councillor Fitzpatrick
Councillor Harte Councillor Howell
Councillor Kimmins Councillor Loughran
Councillor McMurray Councillor Quinn
Councillor Trainor

Officials in attendance: Mr M Lipsett, Director of Active & Healthy Communities
Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director of Active & Healthy Communities (Community Engagement)
Mr K Gordon, Head of Indoor Leisure
Mr C Haughey, Head of Outdoor Leisure
Miss S Taggart, Democratic Services Officer

Also in attendance: Ms C Ferris, OBE, ORNI

AHC/052/2018 APOLOGIES & CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

Apologies were received from Councillors Brown and Ó Muíri and from Mr E Devlin, Assistant Director of Active & Healthy Communities (Health & Wellbeing)

- The Chairperson welcomed Mr K Gordon, Head of Indoor Leisure and Mr C Haughey, Head of Outdoor Leisure who would be deputising for Mr R Moore during his appointment as Interim Director of Neighbourhood Services.
- The Chairperson congratulated the following new postholders within the Outdoor Leisure and Community Engagement sections:
 - Declan Crilly – Outdoor Leisure Officer
 - Colleen Morrison and Ryan Flynn – Sports Development Officers
 - Michelle McKeown – Community Services Manager West
 - Joe Deegan – Community Services Manager East
 - Paul Pickering – Caretaker/Driver East

- The Chairperson advised the following centres would be closed on Easter Sunday, 1st April 2018:
 - Kilkeel
 - Ballymote
 - St Colmans Newry
 - Newry Leisure Centre
 - Down Leisure Centre
 - Newcastle Centre and Seasonal Facilities open normal business hours
- The Chairperson congratulated the Programmes Unit team who successfully completed the roll out of the 'Work It' Programme and had exceeded all of their targets.
- The Chairperson welcomed Councillor Roisin Howell to the Committee.
- The Chairperson raised the issue of drug abuse within the District and asked that officers come back to Committee with proposals for awareness sessions, through the DEA co-ordinators, to be held in each DEA to assist those struggling with drug and alcohol addictions.

AGREED: It was agreed that DEA co-ordinators bring back proposals for drug and alcohol awareness sessions to be held in each DEA to a future Committee Meeting.

- The Chairperson proposed that officers bring a report back to Committee on an Annual Carers Award for those carers throughout the District who go the extra mile 365 days a year. This was seconded by Councillor Andrews. Members discussed the issue and advised it may not be appropriate to just choose one carer when they were all so worthwhile and suggested to investigate how the Trust operates their Carer of the Year Award.

AGREED: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Andrews that officers investigate potential ways of recognising the contribution made by carers in the District and bring a paper with proposals back to a future Committee Meeting.

Councillor Trainor entered the meeting during the above discussions – 5.27pm

AHC/053/2018: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

AHC/054/2018 ACTION SHEET OF THE ACTIVE AND HEALTHY COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 19 FEBRUARY 2018

Read: Action Sheet of the Active & Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on Monday 19 February 2018. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: It was agreed to note the action sheet.

PRESENTATIONS

AHC/055/2018 PRESENTATION BY ORNI RE: SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT

The Chairperson welcomed Ms Caro-lynn Ferris, OBE to the meeting and invited her to make her presentation.

Ms Ferris thanked the Chairperson for the invitation to present to Committee. She stated that ORNI had been working through an SLA with the Council for the last two years on the development and delivery of Community Trail Plans and Newry, Mourne and Down District Council were the first Council to establish these trails.

Ms Ferris provided some background to what a Community Trail was and outlined the process being followed as well as the work that had been completed for Council, which included Community Trails having been completed for five DEAs and Plans in place for the other two DEAs. (copy of the presentation appended to these minutes).

The Chairperson thanked Ms Ferris for her presentation and invited questions from Members.

Members asked the following questions:

- Due to time constraints on the Council's Countryside Officer and lack of resources within the legal department, would it be possible to outsource the assertion of routes throughout the District to ORNI to progress?
- How can the Community Trails be linked with tourism on a more strategic basis?
- Would Islands Park in Newcastle, being used as a pump track for Mountain Bike Trails be more beneficial than placing same in Tipperary Wood, Newcastle?

Ms Ferris and Mr Lipsett responded to the queries as follows:

- The purpose of having the SLA with ORNI was to assist with the identification of pathways throughout the District, however the Council's Countryside Officer and Legal Departments would still need to assert these routes when discovered.
- The relationship between community trails and tourism was linked however it was more important to begin with the community. Under Scottish legislation, every town, village, settlement in Scotland must have a core path around it for the local community to access a walking route from their front door. However, within the Cairngorms, these individual settlement paths were linked to others for tourism purposes.
- If Islands Park in Newcastle was being developed as a community resource then it would be more beneficial to have the pump track in the middle of the park as a space for families to access.

Mr Lipsett advised it was his intention to bring the SLA to Committee next month for approval on the basis of the presentation and if Members had any other aspects to add they should forward to him.

Agreed: Members to revert to the Director if they have any additions to

make to the SLA with ORNI.

Councillor Kimmins entered the meeting at this stage – 5.52pm

It was agreed to take item 14 at this stage.

AHC/056/2018: BALLYNAHINCH OLYMPIC, KILMORE PLAYING FIELDS

Read: Report from Mr D Morgan, Outdoor Leisure Officer, dated 22 March 2018 regarding Ballynahinch Olympic, Kilmore Playing Fields (copy circulated).

Councillor Fitzpatrick queried whether the officer's recommendations would encroach on the times allocated for other teams that used the pitch.

Mr Haughey advised currently Ballynahinch Olympic Reserves utilise the pitch on a Saturday afternoon so the club would be using the same bookings and the Youth League would still take place on a Saturday morning.

Councillor McMurray queried whether there would be any displacement of the cricket team or if they would be accommodated on the pitch also.

Councillor Walker advised the cricket season was during the summer months when there was no football so both sports could be accommodated.

Agreed: **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Howell, to:**

- **allow officers to work with Ballynahinch Olympic to establish shared use of the pitch, with primacy, along with current users of the facility at Kilmore Playing Fields;**
- **to allow Ballynahinch Olympic to erect a temporary fence and improvements to changing rooms under Council's specification and the Club to maintain and insure.**

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

AHC/057/2018: ANNUAL BUSINESS PLAN REVIEW FOR 2017/18 – COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Read: Report on Annual Business Plan Review for 2017-18 – Community Engagement (copy circulated).

Noted: **The Annual Business Plan Review for 2017-18 – Community Engagement was noted.**

AHC/058/2018: DEA FORA UPDATE REPORT

Read: Report from Mr D Brannigan, Head of Engagement, dated 22 March 2018 regarding DEA Fora Update (copy circulated).

Agreed: **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Andrews,**

seconded by Councillor Doran, to note the DEA Fora Update report and agree the following action sheet from the DEA Forum Private Meeting:

- **Crotlieve DEA Forum Private Meeting held on Tuesday 27 February 2018**

AHC/059/2018: FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE UPDATE

Read: Report from Ms J McCabe, Programmes Manager, dated 22 March 2018 regarding Financial Assistance Update (copy circulated at meeting).

Councillor Walker advised Council was a victim of their own success as so many groups were now being successful when applying for Financial Assistance, which was evidence that the capacity building workshops were working. He asked what the likelihood of finding additional revenue this year would be to fund all of the successful groups and how much additional money would be required to do so?

Mrs Hillen advised that in-year savings were unlikely due to the budget constraints and if Committee were minded to fund 50% of every successful application it would equate to an additional £48k being required. She stated that to fund all at 100% an additional £250k would be required.

Agreed: **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Kimmins, seconded by Councillor Doran to:**

- **Score and rank projects with the available funding awarded in line with rank until full budget is allocated. Applicants that have received a pass score and do not receive funding, will be informed that they may be reconsidered and allocated funding should it become available at a later date;**
- **Approve to fund applications in Call 1 for the 2018-2019 periods as per the Appendices circulated;**
- **Approve Financial Assistance Call 2 (subject to the confirmation of budgets)**

AHC/060/2018: SOUTH ARMAGH/SOUTH DOWN PEACE CENTRE

Read: Report from Ms J McCabe, Programmes Manager, dated 22 March 2018 regarding South Armagh/South Down Peace Centre (copy circulated)

Agreed: **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Harte, seconded by Councillor Loughran to appoint consultants at an estimated cost of £10,000 to:**

- **engage with the local PUL community and to assist with the preparation of information in relation to project's sustainability and potential displacement;**
- **re-submit application for the South Armagh/South Down Peace Centre, provided that PUL participation is secured and evidenced.**

AHC/061/2018: PEACE IV LOCAL ACTION PLAN

Read: Report from Ms J McCabe, Programmes Manager, dated 22 March 2018 regarding Peace IV Local Action Plan (copy circulated).

Councillor Fitzpatrick queried whether there would be opportunities for those groups that lost out in the Financial Assistance funding to be awarded some of this funding. Mrs Hillen advised she would investigate whether this would be possible.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Fitzpatrick, seconded by Councillor Harte, to accept the recommendations of the PEACE IV Partnership as follows at a total cost of £166,750:

- Capacity Building Projects for disengaged, hard-to-reach young people – Tender programme and appoint specialist provider. Estimated cost: £30,000
- Youth Led Citizen Programme – Tender programme and appoint specialist provider. Estimated cost: £130,000
- Addressing Community Tensions – Procure and appoint required facilitators for Castlewellan Culture Programme – Play with Irish Language Awareness. Estimated cost: £6,750
- Shared History and Culture Programme – To appoint a facilitator for community engagement on the Ballykinlar Hut project. Estimated cost: £40,000

Councillor Andrews left the meeting at this stage – 6.12pm

AHC/062/2018: COMMUNITY CENTRE SCALE OF CHARGES 2018/19

Read: Report from Ms J McCann, Head of Community Services, Facilities and Events, dated 22 March 2018 regarding Community Centre Scale of Charges 2018/19 (copy circulated).

Councillor Enright queried how far officers had progressed with identifying those villages and towns that have not yet got a community centre in place.

Mrs Hillen advised the recommendations had been approved through the Community Centre Review process and officers were currently developing a framework to define what a community centre was.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Harte, seconded by Councillor Kimmins, to recommend the Community Centres Scale of Charges for 2018/19 financial year.

AHC/063/2018: KITTY'S ROAD BUSINESS CASE

Read: Report from Ms J McCann, Head of Community Services, Facilities and Events, dated 22 March 2018 regarding Replacement Community Centre at Kitty's Road (copy circulated).

Councillor Doran stated this was brilliant news for the community and asked how long it would take before building would commence.

Mrs Hillen advised officers were keen to get the building work started and it would follow the natural process of procurement etc. She advised officers would keep in close contact with Councillors and the community group through all stages of the process.

- Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Doran, seconded by Councillor Quinn, to recommend the procurement and subsequent appointment of contractors for construction of a new community centre at Kitty's Road, Kilkeel and amendment of the Capital Programme as below:
- Officer time – Community Engagement section and Estates Department;
 - Funding of £350,000 for the scheme had previously been agreed as part of the Council's Capital Programme;
 - Use savings in the Capital Programme to fund the additional £100,000 cost of the scheme.

The Chairperson left the meeting at this stage and the Vice-Chairperson, Councillor Taylor assumed the Chair – 6.16pm

AHC/064/2018: REQUEST TO INVITE EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FOR THE CARD SHOP, MARGARET STREET, NEWRY AND LAND TO THE REAR OF BESSBROOK COMMUNITY CENTRE

Read: Report from Ms J McCann, Head of Community Services, Facilities and Events, dated 22 March 2018 regarding request to invite expressions of interest for the Card Shop, Margaret Street, Newry and land to the rear of Bessbrook Community Centre (copy circulated).

Mrs Hillen stated she had been advised the owner of the Card Shop, Margaret Street, Newry, was interested in renewing their lease therefore officer's would follow up before expressions of interest were advertised.

- Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Kimmins, seconded by Councillor Harte, to recommend approval to proceed with a public advertisement for expressions of interest for the site to the rear of Bessbrook Community Centre.
- It was agreed that officers follow up with the owner of the Card Shop, Margaret Street, Newry before expression of interest was advertised.

Councillors Doran & Harte left the meeting at this stage – 6.17pm

LEISURE AND SPORTS

AHC/065/2018: ANNUAL BUSINESS PLAN REVIEW FOR 2017/18 – LEISURE

AND SPORT

Read: Report on Annual Business Plan Review for 2017-18 – Leisure and Sport (copy circulated).

Noted: The Annual Business Plan Review for 2017-18 – Leisure and Sport was noted.

AHC/066/2018: MAYOBRIDGE PLAY PARK

Read: Report from Mr D Crilly, Outdoor Leisure Officer, dated 22 March 2018 regarding Mayobridge Play Park (copy circulated).

Councillor Fitzpatrick paid tribute to the Director and his team stating there was huge excitement in the village at the prospect of the new play park.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Fitzpatrick, seconded by Councillor Loughran to:

- **approve the findings of the consultation process;**
- **proceed with the lease arrangements;**
- **Council to approve a new budget of £120k for this park;**
- **Council to commence work to build this new play park in Mayobridge**

AHC/067/2018: SLA BETWEEN COUNCIL AND THE SPORTS ASSOCIATION NEWRY, DOWN AND SOUTH ARMAGH (SANDSA)

Read: Report from Mr P Power, Sports Development Manager, dated 22 March 2018, regarding SLA between Council and the Sports Association Newry, Down and South Armagh (SANDSA) (copy circulated).

Councillors Fitzpatrick and Kimmins stated many local clubs were not aware of the work undertaken by SANDSA and that they should sign up to be members and asked that a brief synopsis of the organisation be drawn up and circulated to Members so that they can encourage clubs to sign up.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Kimmins, seconded by Councillor Fitzpatrick to approve the SLA between Council and SANDSA and that a synopsis of the organisation be circulated to all Members.

AHC/068/2018: HOSPITAL ROAD CAPITAL PROJECT

Read: Report from Mr D Crilly, Outdoor Leisure Officer, dated 22 March 2018, regarding Hospital Road, Newry (copy circulated).

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Kimmins, seconded by Councillor Loughran, that the budget was brought forward into the 2018/19 financial year to install the following:

- **1.8mt fence on the Hospital Road and Carnagat Gardens**

- entrance to the site;
- 1.2mtr fence erected at the end of the cul-de-sac in Carnagat Gardens;
- Final part of ball-stop fencing at Parkhead Crescent.

AHC/069/2018: MULTI-SPORTS FACILITY – SPORTS HUB

Read: Report from Mr P Power, Sport Development Manager, dated 22 March 2018, regarding Multi-Sports Facility – Sports Hub (copy circulated).

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Kimmins, seconded by Councillor Fitzpatrick to submit expressions of interest applications for the 3 Sports Hubs (Newry Leisure Centre, St Peter’s GAA, Warrenpoint and Tollymore FC, Newcastle), recommended within the study to Sport NI Multi-Sports Funding Stream.

HEALTH AND WELLBEING

AHC/070/2018: ANNUAL BUSINESS PLAN REVIEW FOR 2017/18 – HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Read: Report on Annual Business Plan Review for 2017-18 – Health and Wellbeing (copy circulated).

Noted: The Annual Business Plan Review for 2017-18 – Health and Wellbeing was noted.

AHC/071/2018: CONSULTATION ON WORKING WITH COMMUNITIES – IMPLEMENTING GEOLOGICAL DISPOSAL

Read: Report from Mr E Devlin, Assistant Director, Health and Wellbeing, dated 22 March 2018, regarding Consultation Working with Communities – Implementing Geological Disposal (copy circulated).

Councillor Trainor stated that Council need to put their views across strongly to any proposals for the implementation of Geological Disposal.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Trainor, seconded by Councillor Enright, to return the circulated response to the consultation on Working with Communities – Implementing Geological Disposal.

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

AHC/072/2018 NEW DOWN LEISURE CENTRE STAFFING REQUIREMENTS

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Trainor, seconded by Councillor Loughran, it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on this matter which related to exempt information by virtue of Part 3 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 – Information relating to the financial or business affairs of a particular person (including the Council holding that information) and the public may, by resolution, be excluded during this item of business.

Read: Report from Mr K Gordon, Head of Indoor Leisure, dated 22 March 2018, regarding New Down Leisure Centre Staffing Requirements (copy circulated).

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

Agreed: When the Committee came out of closed session, the Chairperson advised that it had been agreed on the proposal of Councillor Howell, seconded by Councillor Trainor, to approve:

- new staff structure for Down Leisure Centre as circulated;
- commence recruitment of additional posts;
- continue consultations with staff and trade unions over proposed changes to hours and shift patterns.

FOR NOTING – COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

AHC/073/2018: SOCIAL INVESTMENT FUND UPDATE

Read: Report from Ms J McCabe, Programmes Manager, dated 22 March 2018, regarding Social Investment Fund Update. (copy circulated).

Noted: **The Social Investment Fund Update was noted.**

FOR NOTING – LEISURE AND SPORTS

AHC/074/2018: SANDSA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT

Read: Report from Mr P Power, Sports Development Manager, dated 22 March 2018, regarding SANDSA Executive Committee Appointment. (copy circulated).

Noted: **The SANDSA Executive Committee Appointment was noted.**

There being no further business the meeting ended at 6.29pm.

For consideration at Meeting of Newry, Mourne and Down District Council to be held on Monday 9 April 2017.

Signed: Councillor W Walker
Chairperson

Signed: Mr M Lipsett
Director of Active and Healthy Communities