

NEWRY, MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

NMD/C/

Minutes of Council Meeting held on Monday 6 June 2016 at 6pm in the Mourne Room, Downshire Civic Centre, Downpatrick

In the Chair: Councillor G Fitzpatrick

In attendance: (Councillors)

Councillor T Andrews	Councillor N Bailie
Councillor P Brown	Councillor R Burgess
Councillor S Burns	Councillor P Byrne
Councillor M Carr	Councillor C Casey
Councillor P Clarke	Councillor W Clarke
Councillor G Craig	Councillor D Curran
Councillor L Devlin	Councillor S Doran
Councillor C Enright	Councillor G Hanna
Councillor H Harvey	Councillor T Hearty
Councillor D Hyland	Councillor L Kimmins
Councillor M Larkin	Councillor K Loughran
Councillor J Macauley	Councillor D McAteer
Councillor R Mulgrew	Councillor M Murnin
Councillor P Ó'Grínbín	Councillor B Quinn
Councillor H Reilly	Councillor G Sharvin
Councillor G Stokes	Councillor D Taylor
Councillor JJ Tinnelly	Councillor J Trainor
Councillor B Walker	

(Officials)

Mr L Hannaway, Chief Executive
Mr E Curtis, Director of Strategic Planning and Performance
Mrs D Carville, Director of Corporate Services
Mr M Lipsett, Director of Active and Healthy Communities
Mr C O'Rourke, Director of Regulatory and Technical Services
Mrs M Ward, Director of Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism
Mrs E McParland, Democratic Services Manager
Miss S Taggart, Democratic Services Officer

C/106/2016

APOLOGIES AND CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

Apologies were received from Councillors Ennis, Harte, K McAteer, O'Muírí and Ruane.

The Chairperson welcomed Mr Adrian Hogan, who was seated in the public gallery, to the meeting. She said Mr Hogan was planning over the following few months to attend and observe the proceedings at Council Meetings in each County and she hoped he would find his visit worthwhile.

C/107/2016 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

C/108/2016 ACTION SHEET ARISING FROM COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 3 MAY 2016

Read: Action Sheet from Council Meeting held on 3 May 2016 (copy circulated)

AGREED: The Action Sheet from Council Meeting held on 3 May 2016 was agreed.

COUNCIL MINUTES FOR ADOPTION AND SIGNING

C/109/2016 MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 3 MAY 2016

Read: Minutes of Council Meeting held on 3 May 2016 (copy circulated)

AGREED: The minutes were agreed as an accurate record and adopted on the proposal of Councillor Stokes, seconded by Councillor Hanna.

C/110/2016 MINUTES OF SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 23 MAY 2016

Read: Minutes of Council Meeting held on 23 May 2016 (copy circulated)

Councillor D McAteer requested an amendment to include the addition of his comments praising Transport NI on their recently completed scheme on Milltown Street, Burren and his request for resources from their capital budget to be assigned immediately to phase 2 of footpath on Milltown Street as it had previously been agreed that this was a priority scheme within the Crotlieve DEA.

Councillor P Clarke requested an amendment to reflect that he had proposed, with Councillor W Clarke seconding, that due to the Council being the 3rd largest in N Ireland, and due to the large backlog of maintenance and repairs, Council write to

the incoming DRD Roads Minister requesting additional funds so that Transport NI could be given the appropriate funding to carry out the backlog and repairs.

Councillor Mulgrew expressed her disappointment that, despite the officials from TransportNI agreeing to make contact regarding two ongoing issues at Camlough and Whitecross, this had not occurred.

Councillor Casey asked that a letter be sent to TransportNI to have the sight lines cut at the Old Warrenpoint Road as another accident had occurred at this location.

Councillor Reilly asked if officers would investigate the possibility of Council cutting the sight lines to the left of the Downshire Estate exit to improve visibility.

AGREED: It was agreed that a letter be written to TransportNI regarding the cutting of sight lines to improve visibility across the District.

Officers to investigate the possibility of Council cutting the sight lines to the left of the Downshire Estate exit.

The minutes were agreed as an accurate record, subject to the amendments requested by Councillors D McAteer and P Clarke, and adopted on the proposal of Councillor Stokes, seconded by Councillor Curran.

COMMITTEE MINUTES FOR CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION

C/111/2016 MINUTES OF ENTERPRISE, REGENERATION AND TOURISM COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 9 MAY 2016

Read: Minutes of Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism Committee Meeting held on 9 May 2016 (copy circulated)

ERT/91/2016 – Geopark Project Application

Councillor McAteer stated the agreement should read that Council write to all Louth TDs regarding the Geopark Tourism Project.

AGREED: The minutes were agreed as an accurate record, subject to the above amendment, and adopted on the proposal of Councillor W Clarke, seconded by Councillor Mulgrew.

C/112/2016 MINUTES OF STRATEGY, POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 12 MAY 2016

Read: Minutes of Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee Meeting held on 12 May 2016 (Copy circulated).

SPR/120/2016 – Report on Lease and Disposal of Playing Fields/Recreation Facilities/General Property

Councillor Carr proposed the following amendment to the recommendation that “in situations where two or more clubs were seeking use of the same facility and meet the criteria but could not agree a partnership arrangement, then the land would not be leased until the interested parties could reach an agreement” to:

“in situations where two or more clubs were seeking use of the same facility and meet the criteria but could not agree a partnership arrangement, that the matter be brought back to Council to decide upon”.

Councillor Devlin seconded this amendment stating a stalemate could ensue if the matter was left to clubs to reach an agreement.

AGREED:

It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Carr, seconded by Councillor Devlin that the above amendment be approved.

SPR/114/2016 – Contribution Agreement with Newry Olympic Hockey Club

Councillor D McAteer queried whether the agreed contribution was planned expenditure within the rates estimates process.

Mrs Carville advised the expenditure had not been planned within the rates estimates however it had been agreed earlier in the year although the expenditure had not taken place.

Mr Curtis stated the scheme had been a legacy Newry and Mourne agreement and a commitment existed with a signed letter of offer. He advised the work was now complete and Council were legally bound to cover the costs.

SPR/121/2016 – Warrenpoint Community Hub/Rostrevor Strategic Project

Councillor D McAteer proposed that the recommended action be amended from:

“agreement be given to publicly advertise Expressions of Interest for a Community Health Facility in Rostrevor in a Council owned premises” to:

“agreement be given to publicly advertise Expressions of Interest for any private, community or commercial venture in Rostrevor in a Council owned premises.”

This proposal was seconded by Councillor Tinnelly.

AGREED: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor D McAteer, seconded by Councillor Tinnelly that the above amendment be approved.

SPR/130/2016 – Notice of Motion – Video Recording and Live Streaming of Council Meetings

The Chief Executive stated all Committee Meetings that were held in the Downshire Civic Centre would take place in the Mourne Room until the audio recording equipment was provided in the Commedagh Room. He advised that Committee Meetings which take place in Newry would continue to be held in Newry with audio recording commencing as soon as the equipment had been installed.

The Chief Executive also clarified that recordings of Committee Meetings would be available for inspection by the public at the Council offices, but not on the Council website.

AGREED: The minutes were agreed as an accurate record and adopted, subject to the above amendments, on the proposal of Councillor D McAteer, seconded by Councillor W Clarke.

C/113/2016 MINUTES OF ACTIVE AND HEALTHY COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 16 MAY 2016

Read: Minutes of Active and Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on 16 May 2016 (Copy circulated).

AHC/64/2016 – Burren Vision Report

Mr Hannaway advised that Ballyhornan and Kilcoo were also to be issued a letter outlining Council's support, in principle, for the „Space and Place“ programme.

Councillor Hyland advised he had travelled over an hour to attend the meeting and by the time he got to the Downshire, the meeting was over. He stated the meeting only lasted 17minutes and this was a very short period of time to have Committee meeting business completed.

AGREED: The minutes were agreed as an accurate record and adopted on the proposal of Councillor Harvey, seconded by Councillor Devlin.

C/114/2016 MINUTES OF REGULATORY AND TECHNICAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 18 MAY 2016

Read: Minutes of Regulatory and Technical Services Committee Meeting held on 18 May 2016 (Copy circulated).

RTS/78/2016 – Council public amenity space near the Council public toilets and Castlewella Market House Library (at the request of Councillor P Clarke)

Councillor Clarke asked that the minute be amended to remove „Council“ from the action paragraph regarding the removal of bangor blue slates from the roof as it was not a Council building.

RTS/76/2016 – Consideration of request for removal of trees at Kilbroney Municipal Cemetery, Rostrevor

Councillor Tinnelly asked whether it was possible for trees to be removed that overhang the cemetery and if not, if assurances would be given that regular maintenance would take place on the trees to ensure debris did not fall onto the graves.

Mr O'Rourke stated the Council would not be permitted to go onto the Church property to remove leaf fall etc however branches could be removed if they are overhanging and he would ask officers to investigate the issue.

Councillor Casey asked that officials investigate the issue of overhanging trees at Clanrye Park.

RTS/90/2016 – Dog fouling bins and street cleansing schedule

Councillor Casey asked whether a review had taken place on where dog fouling bins are placed.

Mr O'Rourke stated a review could take place to investigate the cost of additional bins and the servicing of these if required.

AGREED: It was agreed that officers would investigate the issue of overhanging trees at Kilbroney Municipal Cemetery, Rostrevor and Clanrye Park, Newry.

AGREED: It was agreed that a review of the siting of dog fouling bins would be undertaken to investigate costs of additional bins and the servicing of same.

AGREED: The minutes were agreed as an accurate record, subject to the above amendment, and adopted on the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor Casey.

C/115/2016 MINUTES OF SPECIAL AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 19 APRIL 2016

Read: Minutes of Special Audit Committee Meeting held on 19 April 2016 (copy circulated)

AGREED: The minutes were agreed as an accurate record and adopted on the proposal of Councillor Hearty, seconded by Councillor Murnin.

C/116/2016 **MINUTES OF AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 28 APRIL 2016**

Read: Minutes of Audit Committee Meeting held on 28 April 2016 (copy circulated)

Councillor Reilly requested whether Council would be in a position to assist, financially, the 12th of July parade due to be held in Kilkeel as it was to be a flagship event with a carnival atmosphere.

The Chief Executive stated this would be a matter for the Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism Committee rather than Audit therefore it would be referred to that Committee.

AGREED: The issue regarding possible financial assistance for the 12th July parade in Kilkeel to be referred to the ERT Committee for discussion.

AGREED: The minutes were agreed as an accurate record and adopted on the proposal of Councillor Murnin, seconded by Councillor Brown.

CORRESPONDENCE AND CONSULTATION

C/117/2016 **CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED FROM PARLIAMENTARY UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE RE: ELECTORAL OFFICE REFORMS**

Read: Correspondence received from Parliamentary Under Secretary of State regarding Electoral Office Reforms (Copy circulated).

NOTED: The correspondence received regarding Electoral Office Reforms was noted.

C/118/2016 **CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED FROM WW1 CENTENARY NORTHERN IRELAND**

Read: Correspondence received from WW1 Centenary Northern Ireland regarding Invitation for Service to Commemorate the

Centenary of the Battle of the Somme at St Anne's Cathedral, Belfast (Copy circulated).

AGREED: It was agreed that any Member wishing to attend would forward their name to Democratic Services as soon as possible.

Councillor Taylor nominated Councillor Macauley to attend.

C/119/2016 **CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED FROM BELFAST HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE TRUST**

Read: Correspondence received from Belfast Health & Social Care Trust regarding a Consultation and Equality Impact Assessment on the Development of Ophthalmic Clinical Centres in Northern, Southern and South Eastern Local Commissioning Group/Trust Areas (Copy circulated).

The Chief Executive advised the Belfast Health and Social Care Trust were keen to have responses to the consultation as outlined above.

Members discussed the issue at length and it was agreed, on the proposal of Councillor Stokes, seconded by Councillor Hyland that Council respond to the consultation stating that, while it welcomes the introduction of services into the Downe Hospital, those services at Daisy Hill must be retained rather than being moved to Banbridge.

AGREED: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Stokes, seconded by Councillor Hyland that Council respond to the consultation stating that, while it welcomes the introduction of services into the Downe Hospital, those services at Daisy Hill must be retained rather than being moved to Banbridge.

C/120/2016 **CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED FROM DEPARTMENT FOR COMMUNITIES**

Read: Correspondence received from Department for Communities regarding Welfare Reform: Independent Advice Funding (Copy circulated).

NOTED: The correspondence received regarding Welfare Reform: Independent Advice Funding was noted.

C/121/2016

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED FROM LIBRARIES NI

Read: Correspondence received from Libraries NI regarding Consultation and Reduction in Opening Hours in Newry City Library (Copy circulated).

The Chief Executive advised correspondence had been received from Libraries NI regarding a potential reduction in opening hours in Newry City Library.

Members spoke at length in opposition to any reduction in hours at Newry City Library and it was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Hyland that Newry Councillors seek a meeting with Irene Knox, Chief Executive of Libraries NI to express their opposition to the potential reductions.

Councillor Taylor asked that Council respond to the consultation as well as seeking a meeting to ensure their opposition was noted.

This was agreed by the proposer and seconder.

AGREED: It was agreed that Council respond to the consultation, outlining their opposition to any proposed reduction in opening hours.

It was also agreed that Council seek a meeting with Irene Knox, Chief Executive of Libraries NI to express their opposition to the potential reductions.

CONFERENCES/EVENTS

C/122/2016

NILGA CONFERENCE

Read: Correspondence received from NILGA regarding Local Government Annual Conference & Exhibition 5/6 October 2016 (Copy circulated).

AGREED: It was agreed that the Chair and Vice-Chair of Council, along with the Council's NILGA representatives attend the Local Government Annual Conference and Exhibition on 5-6 October 2016.

SEALING DOCUMENTS

C/123/2016

SEALING DOCUMENTS

AGREED: It was agreed to sign and seal the following documents on the proposal of Councillor Stokes, seconded by Councillor Curran:

1. Land of the Rear of Shimna Park, Newcastle - Contract for Sale and Lease Agreement.
2. Rural Development Programme - Mourne, Gullion and Lecale - Service Level Agreement between DAERA and Council and Contract between Council and LAG.
3. AD/LEG/171 - Artist's Contract Newry, Mourne and Down District Council and Francis Morgan.
4. Contract - Newry, Mourne and Down District Council and Corran Kennels for Kennelling Facilities.
5. AD/LEG/107 - Deed of Charge between PIPS Newry and Mourne Limited and Council
6. AD/LEG/107 - Inter Lenders' Agreement between AIB Group (UK) plc, Council and PIPS Newry and Mourne Ltd
7. Newry, Mourne and Down District Council and Tom Duffy's Circus Limited - Licence Agreement for use of Council Lands at Middlebank, Albert Basin, Newry

NOTICES OF MOTION

C/124/2016

NOTICE OF MOTION RECEIVED FROM COUNCILLOR HYLAND - OLD WARRENPOINT ROAD, NEWRY

The following Notice of Motion came forward for consideration in the name of Councillor Hyland:

‘That this Council notes with concern the growing number of road accidents on the Old Warrenpoint Road, Newry and urges DRD Roads Service to take immediate and effective measures to ensure the safety of local residents and children’

In proposing the motion, Councillor Hyland stated the Old Warrenpoint Road in Newry was a long strip of road at which a number of accidents have occurred. He stated that Roads Service had been petitioned on many occasions to take measures to control the speed on the road, however they painted red squares on the road. He proposed that Council write to DRD Roads Service to ask for a meeting to resolve the issues of speeding to ensure the safety of local residents and children.

Councillor Casey seconded the motion stating anything that can be carried out to reduce the amount of accidents on the road would be welcome.

Members spoke in support of the motion with Councillor D McAteer asking for an amendment to the motion to include requesting an update on how the proposed measures agreed by Transport NI were progressing and whether there were any outcomes from this.

The proposer and seconder agreed to the amendment.

AGREED: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Hyland, seconded by Councillor Casey that Council write to Roads Service asking for a meeting to resolve the issue of speeding on the Old Warrenpoint Road, Newry. It was also agreed to ask, within the letter, for an update on how the proposed measures agreed on this road were progressing and whether there were any outcomes from these measures.

C/125/2016

NOTICE OF MOTION RECEIVED FROM COUNCILLOR P CLARKE – MENTAL HEALTH & MENTAL WELL-BEING

The following Notice of Motion came forward for consideration in the name of Councillor P Clarke:

‘That this Council writes to the offices of the First and Deputy First Minister calling on the Northern Ireland Executive to now urgently prioritise and address mental health and mental well-being as one of the most important health issues currently affecting people of all ages in Northern Ireland and also urges the Northern Ireland Executive to dedicate more resources and funding in conjunction with developing a mental health and mental wellbeing strategy plan with all major stake-holders including the community, voluntary, and private sector and Ministerial Government departments which can help address and tackle those affected with mental health problems across Northern Ireland.’

In proposing the motion, Councillor P Clarke stated mental health was one of the four most significant causes of health problems in Northern Ireland with one in five people being diagnosed with a mental health issue. He stated resources need to be provided for people to be able to access services and funding should be ringfenced by the Northern Ireland Executive.

Councillor P Clarke commended the work undertaken by local charities within the realm of mental health and wellbeing, charities who receive no government funding whatsoever.

Councillor Walker seconded the motion stating Council should write to the new Health Minister as well as OFMDFM stating that funding should be ringfenced for mental health services and should be exempt from any funding cuts.

All parties spoke in support of the motion and commended Councillor P Clarke for bringing the motion forward.

Councillor Burns stated a similar motion had been brought to Council and had recommended that Council implement recognition of World Mental Health Day and

Suicide Prevention Day as well as promoting mental health and wellbeing throughout the Council, and asked whether an update on these could be provided.

The Chief Executive advised the promotion of mental health and wellbeing was being developed as part of the Community Planning work and he would investigate the matter of recognising World Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Days.

AGREED: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor P Clarke, seconded by Councillor Walker that Council write to the new Health Minister and OFMDFM calling on them to dedicate more resources and funding to mental health services and ringfencing the budget to ensure it was exempt from any funding cuts.

C/126/2016

NOTICE OF MOTION RECEIVED FROM COUNCILLOR REILLY – A2 ROAD FROM NEWCASTLE

The following Notice of Motion came forward for consideration in the name of Councillor Reilly:

‘That this Council requests that the DRD allocates "trunk road" designation for the main A2 road from Newcastle at the Castlewellan, Dundrum Road Roundabout to the Fire station at Warrenpoint. That the Mourne DEA is aggregated in administrative terms for roads maintenance and improvements and the entire DEA and becomes the responsibility of the Transport NI Eastern Division. That in the event of this notice of motion passing through Council that a urgent meeting is requested with the DRD Minister to discuss the implementation of said motion.’

Councillor Reilly proposed the motion stating since the Local Government Reform, the Mourne DEA has increased significantly and now that one third of the DEA is in the East of the District, the roads in this area are dealt with by the Seaford office with the rest being dealt with by the Newry office. He asked that a meeting be sought with the Minister to discuss the possibility of designating the A2 as a trunk road as it was not fit for purpose due to lack of investment and route planning.

Councillor Hanna seconded the motion stating the A2 has protected route designation however it needed to be redesignated to a trunk road. The road was not fit for purpose and with Council wanting to be a main tourist destination, the road urgently needed to be upgraded. Councillor Hanna also

Members spoke in support of the motion stating that the Mourne DEA is split over a number of services and it would make sense to have its road administration managed through the Transport NI Eastern Division..

AGREED: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Reilly, seconded by Councillor Hanna that Council requests the

DRD to designate the A2 road as a trunk road and that the Mourne DEA was aggregated in administrative terms for roads maintenance and improvements and the entire DEA should become the responsibility of the Transport NI Eastern Division.

It was also agreed that an urgent meeting with the DRD Minister be sought to discuss the implementation of the above.

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 7.45pm

Signed:

Chairperson

Chief Executive