

NEWRY, MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

NMD/C/

Minutes of Council Meeting held on Monday 4 July 2022 at 6.00pm in Downshire Chamber

In the Chair: Councillor M Savage (via Teams)

In attendance in Chamber:

Councillor T Andrews	Councillor J Brennan
Councillor R Burgess	Councillor D Curran
Councillor A Finnegan	Councillor O Hanlon
Councillor D Lee-Surginor	Councillor A Lewis
Councillor O Magennis	Councillor D Murphy
Councillor G O'Hare	Councillor B Ó Muirí
Councillor D Taylor	

In attendance via Teams

Councillor P Byrne	Councillor C Casey
Councillor C Enright	Councillor H Gallagher
Councillor G Hanna	Councillor V Harte
Councillor M Larkin	Councillor G Malone
Councillor D McAteer	Councillor L McEvoy
Councillor H McKee	Councillor K McKeivitt
Councillor R Mulgrew	Councillor K Owen
Councillor H Reilly	Councillor M Rice
Councillor M Ruane	Councillor G Sharvin
Councillor G Stokes	Councillor J Tinnelly
Councillor W Walker	

Officials in attendance in Chamber:

Mrs M Ward, Chief Executive
Mr M Lipsett, Director of Active and Healthy Communities
Miss S Taggart, Democratic Services Manager (Acting)
Mrs L Cummins, Democratic Services Officer

C/114/2022

APOLOGIES AND CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

Apologies were received from Councillors Devlin, Howell, McMurray, Trainor, Mrs D Carville, Deputy Chief Executive, and Mr C Mallon, Director of Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism.

The Chairperson encouraged Members and all citizens to reach out to family and friends across the globe on social media to play their part to register and promote the

'Do it for Daniel Campaign' as a potential stem cell donor through DKNS.ORG.UK website to help save lives on behalf of a young man from Newry, Daniel Greer.

The Chairperson offered huge congratulations to Dundrum Coastal Rowing Club on winning the Skiffy World Championships in the Netherlands for a third time and also Strangford, Ardglass and Killyleagh Coastal Rowing Clubs who finished in the top 10 of the world championships. He congratulated them on representing the District and hoped to recognize the success of Dundrum and other the local clubs in the near future. Councillors Lee-Surginor and Andrews took the opportunity to congratulate all the local Rowing Clubs especially the teams within the Rowallane area for the huge achievement.

The Chairperson congratulated Megan McIlherron from Bessbrook and Rebecca Devlin from Hilltown who were both medal winners at the Special Olympics Equestrian World Games in Berlin and advised he would be recognising their fantastic achievements in the coming weeks.

The Chairperson acknowledged Downpatrick's Tennis Club 20th anniversary celebrations had commenced this week and wished the club well in the future.

The Chairperson formally acknowledged that it would have been Mrs Dorinnia Carville's last Council meeting and thanked her for her huge contribution in a key strategic role in Council and for her attention to detail, comprehensive awareness of governance and compliance issues and professionalism over the years and wished her well in her new role and for the future. He also advised that Mrs Josephine Kelly had been appointed as the new Director of Corporate Services and would commence the post after the summer break.

The Chairperson also thanked Mr Johnny McBride for his efforts in acting Director of Neighbourhood Services and previous roles within Council, wishing him well in his new post. He also advised members that Mr Andrew Cassells would be taking up the post as the new Sustainable and Environment Director in the coming weeks.

At the request of Councillor Casey, the Chairperson acknowledged the feat of Cleary Celtic Football club Newry, who made a clean sweep of all competitions entered for and for their outstanding achievements.

Councillors Owen & Andrews paid tribute to Mr Davy Morgan from Saintfield who sadly lost his life at the Isle of Man TT races on 7 June 2022. Mr Morgan had a great reputation as a superb motorsport icon and would be greatly missed.

C/115/2022

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Enright declared an interest in Item 8 - Minutes of Active and Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on 20 June 2022, as a member of Strangford Rowing Club.

C/116/2022 ACTION SHEET ARISING FROM COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 6 JUNE 2022

Read: Action sheet arising from Council Meeting held on 6 June 2022 (copy circulated).

Agreed: The Action Sheet from Council Meeting held on 6 June 2022 was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Sharvin, seconded by Councillor Curran.

COUNCIL MINUTES FOR ADOPTION AND SIGNING

C/117/2022 MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 6 JUNE 2022

Read: Minutes of Council Meeting held on 6 June 2022 (copy circulated).

Agreed: The Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 6 June 2022 were agreed as an accurate record and adopted, on the proposal of Councillor Ó Muirí, seconded by Councillor Andrews.

C/118/2022 MINUTES OF ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 6 JUNE 2022

Read: Minutes of Annual Council Meeting held on 6 June 2022 (copy circulated).

Agreed: The Minutes of the Annual Council Meeting held on 6 June 2022 were agreed as an accurate record and adopted, on the proposal of Councillor McAteer, seconded by Councillor Ó Muirí.

COMMITTEE MINUTES FOR CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION

C/119/2022 MINUTES OF ENTERPRISE, REGENERATION AND TOURISM COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 13 JUNE 2022

Read: Minutes of Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism Committee Meeting held on 13 June 2022 (copy circulated).

Agreed: The Minutes of Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism Committee Meeting held on 13 June 2022 were agreed as an accurate record and adopted, on the proposal of Councillor Lee-Surginor, seconded by Councillor Burgess.

C/120/2022

**MINUTES OF STRATEGY, POLICY AND RESOURCES
COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 16 JUNE 2022**

Read: Minutes of Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee Meeting held on 16 June 2022 (copy circulated).

SPR/098/2022: Draft Publication Scheme V2.3

Following requests for clarification from Councillors Taylor & Byrne it was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Lewis, seconded by Councillor Owen, to defer approval of the report and to bring a further paper to the next Strategy Policy and Resources Committee meeting in August, to include reasons why Council deviated from the ICO recommendations and whether other Councils had also deviated from the recommendations.

SPR/106/2022: BRCD and Complementary Fund Resources (in closed session)

Following a query from Councillor Lee-Surginor, the Chief Executive advised discussions had taken place on the matter of the Levelling-Up Fund at the Strategic Finance Working Group and ERT. She stated that officers were working with consultants to identify applications that were appropriate and could be considered achievable through the Levelling-Up fund, however these applications had not as yet been made as the portal had not opened.

As a follow-up, Councillor Lee-Surginor stated these discussions should be held in public and if officers were applying for funding, Councillors should be made aware. The Chief Executive advised that Members were continually made aware of what funding applications were being made and a report would be presented at a future ERT Committee Meeting.

SPR/099/2022: NMDDC Annual Fair Employment Monitoring Return: 2 January 2021-1 January 2022

Following a query from Councillor Reilly and further discussions from members, the Chief Executive provided a comprehensive response stating that Newry Mourne and Down District Council was an Equal Opportunities Employer and that the Council particularly welcomes applications from members of the protestant community who are currently underrepresented in parts of our workforce. She advised that due to the level of detail contained within the figures presented, it was important not to look at any figures in isolation.

Following further discussion on the matter it was proposed by Councillor Reilly, seconded by Councillor Hanna, to refer the matter to the Equality and Good Relations Forum for further discussion.

Councillor Casey requested that a comparison of all Councils be included as part of the process.

Councillor Brennan left during the above discussions – 6.25pm

**Agreed: The Minutes of Strategy, Policy and Resources
Committee Meeting held on 16 June 2022 were**

agreed as an accurate record and adopted, with the exception of SPR/098/2022 – Draft Publication Scheme V2.3, on the proposal of Councillor Hanlon, seconded by Councillor Ó Muirí.

SPR/098/2022 – Draft Publication Scheme V2.3

It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Lewis, seconded by Councillor Owen to defer approval of the report and bring a further paper to the next Strategy Policy and Resources Committee meeting in August, to include reasons why Council had deviated from the ICO recommendations and if any other Councils had deviated from the model publication the ICO had produced.

SPR/099/2022: NMDDC Annual Fair Employment Monitoring Return: 2 January 2021-1 January 2022

It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Reilly, seconded by Councillor Hanna to refer the matter to the Equality and Good Relations Forum for further discussion.

Councillor Enright left the meeting at this stage having previously declared an interest – 6.19pm

C/121/2022 MINUTES OF ACTIVE AND HEALTHY COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 20 JUNE 2022

Read: Minutes of Active and Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on 20 June 2022 (copy circulated).

AHC/107/2022: Outdoor Recreation Northern Ireland (ORNI) Service Level Agreement.
In response to a query from Councillor O'Hare regarding Hilltown pump track development, Mr Lipsett advised he would follow up and bring a report back to the next Active and Healthy Communities Committee Meeting and update Councillor O'Hare separately.

AHC/124/2022: Letter from TEO Permanent Secretary Re: Ukraine Assistance Centres.
The Chairperson confirmed if a response was received it would be circulated to all members before the next Active and Healthy Communities meeting, regarding Councillor Lewis proposal to write a letter to the Executive Office regarding request for payment of £350 for those assisting with the Ukrainian Refugees.

Agreed: The Minutes of Active and Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on 20 June 2022 were agreed as an accurate record and adopted, on the proposal of Councillor Sharvin, seconded by Councillor Lewis.

C/122/2022

MINUTES OF NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 22 JUNE 2022

Read: Minutes of Neighbourhood Services Committee Meeting held on 22 June 2022 (copy circulated).

In response to queries raised by Councillors Andrews and McAteer regarding an update on the expected arrival date of the new refuse vehicles and in particular the Macpac vehicle, Mrs Ward confirmed that the new vehicle bin lorry fleet was on order and she would get Mr Cassells to update Councillors.

Agreed: The Minutes of Neighbourhood Services Committee Meeting held on 22 June 2022 were agreed as an accurate record and adopted, on the proposal of Councillor McKeivitt, seconded by Councillor Stokes.

C/123/2022

PLANNING MINUTES

Read: Extract from Minutes of Planning Committee Meeting held on 1 June 2022. (Copy circulated)

Noted: The extract from the Planning Committee Minutes of Meeting held on 1 June 2022 was noted on the proposal of Councillor McAteer, seconded by Councillor O'Hare.

FOR NOTING

C/124/2022

CORRESPONDENCE FROM DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE RE: INDEPENDENT MEMBERS TO NORTHERN IRELAND POLICING BOARD

Read: Letter dated 9 June 2022 from Department for Justice regarding Independent Members to Northern Ireland Policing Board. (copy circulated)

Councillor Lewis asked if a special case could be considered to fill the two Independent empty seats on the PCSP Committee as there was no one in the reserve pool, as the next selection process was not until 2023.

Mrs Ward confirmed she would refer the matter onto the PCSP Committee for consideration and refer back to Councillor Lewis outside of the meeting.

Councillor Owen advised that she would be happy to take forward a query from Councillor Reilly regarding the process to purchase speed indicators, to the PCSP Committee if he wanted to contact her outside of the meeting with the details.

Agreed: The correspondence dated 9 June 2022 from Department for Justice regarding Independent Members to Northern Ireland Policing Board was

**noted on the proposal of Councillor McAteer,
seconded by Councillor Sharvin.**

C/125/2022 TRANSLINK – BETTER CONNECTED

Read: Circular received from Translink – Better Connected. (Copy circulated)

Agreed: The circular from Translink – Better Connected was noted on the proposal of Councillor McAteer, seconded by Councillor Sharvin.

C/126/2022 RESPONSE FROM FERMANAGH & OMAGH DISTRICT COUNCIL RE:FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Read: Letter dated 28 June 2022 from Fermanagh & Omagh District Council regarding Free School Meals. (copy circulated)

Agreed: The correspondence dated 28 June 2022 from Fermanagh & Omagh District Council regarding – Free School Meals was noted on the proposal of Councillor McAteer, seconded by Councillor Sharvin.

C/127/2022 RESPONSE FROM HM TREASURY RE: NOM INCREASED ENERGY COSTS

Read: Letter dated 29 June 2022 from HM Treasury regarding NOM Increased Energy Costs. (copy circulated)

Agreed: The correspondence dated 29 June 2022 from HM Treasury regarding – NOM Increased Energy Costs was noted on the proposal of Councillor McAteer, seconded by Councillor Sharvin.

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 6.45pm.

For confirmation at the Council Meeting to be held on Monday 1 August 2022.

Signed: _____
Chairperson

Chief Executive