

**NEWRY, MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Minutes of Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Committee Meeting held on Monday 11 February 2019 were ratified at the Council Meeting held on Monday 4 March 2019, subject to the following amendment below:

**ERT/038/2019 – Tollymore Forest Park – Tea Rooms**

Agreed: It was agreed to amend the minute to reflect Councillor Clarke's proposal that Council seek expressions of interest alongside negotiating with Forestry Service with regard the Tea Rooms in Tollymore Forest Park.

**ERT/025/2019 – Newcastle and Warrenpoint Beaches**

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Devlin, seconded by Councillor Hanna that Council seek external funding options for an artificial beach in Newcastle and bring a business case to ERT Committee for decision.

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**Minutes of the Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism Committee Meeting  
held on Monday 11 February 2019 at 5.00pm in the Boardroom, District  
Council Offices, Monaghan Row, Newry**

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**Chairperson:** Councillor Ruane

**In Attendance:** **(Committee Members)**  
Councillor P Byrne  
Councillor R Burgess  
Councillor M Carr  
Councillor C Casey  
Councillor W Clarke  
Councillor D Curran  
Councillor H Harvey  
Councillor R Mulgrew  
Councillor D McAteer  
Councillor O McMahan  
Councillor G Stokes  
Councillor J Tinnelly

**Officials**

**in Attendance:** Ms M Ward Director Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism  
Mr A Patterson Assistant Director Tourism Culture & Events  
Ms L Dillon Democratic Services Officer

**Also in attendance:** Mr M Robinson

**ERT/016/2019: APOLOGIES / CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS**

Apologies were received for:

Councillor G Hanna  
Councillor B Quinn

Councillor Ruane introduced Mr Martin Robinson who would soon take up the post of Assistant Director of Enterprise Employment and Regeneration, which was the post formerly held by Mr Jonathan McGilly.

**ERT/017/2019: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no Declarations of Interest received.

**ERT/018/2019: ACTION SHEET  
MINUTES OF ENTERPRISE, REGENERATION AN  
TOURISM MEETING OF MONDAY 14 JANUARY 2019**

**Read:** Action Sheet arising out of the Minutes of the Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism Committee Meeting held on Monday 14 January 2019. **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** It was unanimously agreed to note the Action Sheet arising out of the Minutes of the Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism Committee Meeting held on Monday 14 January 2019.

**ENTERPRISE, EMPLOYMENT AND REGENERATION ITEMS**

**ERT/019/2019: FORKHILL PLAY AREA**

**Read:** Report dated 11 February 2019 from Mr Jonathan McGilly, Assistant Director Enterprise, Employment and Regeneration regarding a Licence Agreement with the Department of Communities for Forkhill Play Area. **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Mulgrew seconded by Councillor McMahon it was agreed as follows:

- (a) To proceed to put in place the relevant Licence Agreements with the Department of Communities (DFC) to enable the proposed Forkhill Play Area to be both constructed and maintained thereafter by the Council.**

- (b) **The Council to maintain it's interest in the site as part of the ongoing D1 site disposal process to ensure those elements that the Council are maintaining are transferred into Council ownership.**

**ERT/020/2019: PUBLIC REALM SCHEME  
- WARRENPOINT FRONT SHORE**

**Read:** Report dated 11 February 2019 from Ms M Ward Director Enterprise, Employment and Regeneration regarding the appointment of a consultancy team for a Public Realm Scheme at Warrenpoint Front. **(Copy circulated)**

Ms Ward said that a task and finish working group for this location would not be established until after the Local Government Elections in May 2019.

**Agreed:** **On the proposal of Councillor McAteer seconded by Councillor Ruane the following was agreed:**

- (a) **Approve the Warrenpoint Front Shore Public Realm Scheme, to proceed to procurement of an Integrated Consultancy Team (ICT). If within Budget, proceed to appointment.**
- (b) **Council establish a relevant Task and Finish Working Group for the Design and Delivery (Subject to DFC funding) of the Warrenpoint Front Shore Public Realm Scheme.**
- (c) **Officers to look at the possible renaming of the Public Realm scheme to include Cole's Corner, Dock Street and the Baths.**

**ERT/021/2019: NEWRY CITY - PURPLE FLAG  
ACCREDITATION RENEWAL**

**Read:** Report dated 11 February 2019 from Ms M Ward Director Enterprise, Employment and Regeneration regarding accreditation renewal for Newry City Purple Flag status. **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** **On the proposal of Councillor Stokes seconded by Councillor Casey it was agreed as follows:**

- (a) **The Council renew the annual Purple Flag Accreditation Membership for 2019.**

- (b) **The Chairperson of Council and relevant Council Official to attend the Purple Flag Awards in Dublin to be held on Wednesday 6 March 2019.**

**ERT/022/2019: RING OF GULLION - TRAMLINER FEATURE**

**Read:** Report dated 11 February 2019 from Ms Marie Ward, Director Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism regarding a partnership agreement with Translink for the siting of a refurbished tram carriage at the Translink Train Station Newry. **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** **On the proposal of Councillor Mulgrew seconded by Councillor Harvey it was agreed the Council enter into a partnership agreement with Translink for a refurbished tram carriage to be hosted on their site at Newry Train Station as a Ring of Gullion welcome feature, for a minimum of 10 years, to be maintained by Ring of Gullion Landscape Partnership (RoGLPS) or AONB volunteers.**

**ERT/023/2019: ENVIRONMENT FUND APPLICATION  
RING OF GULLION AONB  
STRANGFORD LOUGH & LECALÉ AONB**

**Read:** Report dated 11 February 2019 from Ms Marie Ward Director Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism regarding the renewal of DAERA funding for the delivery of actions in the Ring of Gullion and Strangford Lough & Lecale AONBs action plans. **(Copy enclosed)**

**Agreed:** **On the proposal of Councillor Mulgrew seconded by Councillor Curran it was agreed as follows:**

- (a) **To submit an application to Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs for Environment Fund funding for a period of 4 years from 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2023 for the delivery of actions in Ring of Gullion AONB and Strangford Lough & Lecale AONB (RGSLL).  
If the application is successful, to accept and commence project implementation.**
- (b) **Continue to provide support for RGSLL and the work to deliver the AONB Action Plans and Marine Site MPA Scheme in support of the councils role in heritage based projects and activity based tourism and the conserving of landscape as a resource, rural economic development, outdoor recreation, biodiversity, environmental sustainability legislation , and healthy and active communities.**

## **TOURISM, CULTURE AND EVENTS ITEMS**

### **ERT/024/2019: LOCAL FULL FIBRE NETWORK (LFFN)**

Read: Report dated 11 February 2019 from Ms A Smyth Head of Regeneration & Business regarding the Department of Culture Media & Sport (DCMS) Local Full Fibre Networks programme designed to stimulate commercial investment in full fibre networks in rural and urban locations across the whole of the UK. **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor McMahon seconded by Councillor McAteer it was agreed as follows:**

- (a) To finalise the Consortium agreement in conjunction with NMDDC legal department and Belfast Legal Services.**
- (b) Following notification of the successful application to DCMS on behalf of FFNI, it is recommended to enter into a Consortium Agreement with NMDDC acting as lead Council.**
- (c) Ms M Ward Director of Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism to provide detail to Councillor D McAteer regarding the issues raised in relation to how FFNI will benefit the creation of network connections in rural areas.**

## **TOURISM CULTURE AND EVENTS ITEMS**

### **ERT/025/2019: NEWCASTLE AND WARRENPOINT BEACHES**

Read: Report dated 11 February 2019 from Mr Andy Patterson, Assistant Director Tourism, Culture and Events regarding the provision of an artificial beach at Newcastle and Warrenpoint beaches. **(Copy circulated)**

Councillor Clarke expressed concerns at having a pop up beach in Newcastle. He said if the beach was better managed with a designated area provided it would bring a better experience for users. He added that a pop up facility would be difficult to secure in terms of antisocial issues and dog fouling and would present a health and safety risk and that discussion was needed with NIEA to seek a licence agreement to take sand from Ballykinler back to Newcastle beach as people using the beach will still want to access the water.

In response to concerns from Councillor Carr regarding the 3 year period for the designation of water quality for bathing at Warrenpoint Beach, Mr Patterson explained there was a requirement by NIEA for 3 years testing data for water quality at Warrenpoint Beach before it could be designated as bathing water.

**Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Clarke seconded by Councillor Casey the following was agreed:**

- (a) The development of the beach front area in Warrenpoint to be included in the development brief for the Environmental Improvement scheme and that the Council enters into a period of Water Quality Testing to establish water quality and the potential for a bathing water designation in three year's time.**
- (b) To host a workshop with officials of the Marine Strategy and Licensing Branch of DAERA to discuss proposals for the beach front at Warrenpoint and to discuss obtaining a Marine Licence for the necessary works required at Newcastle Beach.**
- (c) Refer a request to the Neighbourhood Services Directorate to improve the provision of litter bins and cleansing on Newcastle Beach and surrounding area.**

**ERT/026/2019:      SUSTAINABLE DESTINATIONS  
GLOBAL TOP 100 AWARDS**

**Read:**                      Report dated 11 February 2019 from Mr A Patterson Assistant Director Enterprise Regeneration and Tourism regarding County Down being recognised in the world top 100 Sustainable Destinations and recommending the attendance fo 2 No. delegates to attend the Awards Ceremony in Berlin in March 2019. **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:**                **On the proposal of Councillor Harvey seconded by Councillor Tinnelly it was agreed to note the achievement of County Down being recognised as the only destination in the UK/Ireland to be included in the prestigious ‘Sustainable Destinations Global Top 100’ award and to approve the attendance of 2 No. delegates (the Council Chairman and one officer) at the ITB Earth Award Top 100 Awards Ceremony in March 2019 in Berlin to receive the award.**

**ERT/027/2019:      RESURFACING OF ENTRANCE ROAD  
- DELAMONT COUNTRY PARK**

**Read:**                      Report dated 11 February 2019 from Mr A Patterson Assistant Director Enterprise Regeneration and Tourism regarding resurfacing works to the entrance road into Delamont Country Park. **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:**                **On the proposal of Councillor Burgess seconded by Councillor Harvey it was agreed to appoint a contractor through the CPD Framework to undertake resurfacing works to the entrance road at Delamont Country Park, before the Easter period, at a cost of £70,000.**

**It was also agreed Officials look at providing additional woodchip at the Play Area in Delamont Country Park to address wet areas around play equipment ie, slide and swings.**

**ERT/028/2019: SPAIN VISIT**

**Read:** Report dated 11 February 2019 from Mr A Patterson Assistant Director Enterprise Regeneration and Tourism regarding an invite from the Mayor of Vimianzo Spain for the Chairperson of Council to visit the region on 1 – 3 March 2019. **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** **On the proposal of Councillor Burgess seconded by Councillor McAteer it was agreed to accept an invitation from the Mayor of Vimianzo Spain for the Chairperson of Council to visit the region from 1-3 March 2019.**

**ERT/029/2019: TOURISM EVENTS PROGRAMME 2019/20**

**Read:** Report dated 11 February 2019 from Mr A Patterson Assistant Director Enterprise Regeneration and Tourism providing details of the Tourism Events Programme 2019/20 financial year. **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** **On the proposal of Councillor Byrne seconded by Councillor Mulgrew it was agreed as follows:**

**(a) To approve the Tourism Events Programme for the 2019/20 Financial Year.**

**(b) To approve funding to the following events, by way of Service Level Agreement; Letter of Offer and Contractual Documents:**

- **Ulster Pipe Band Championship Newcastle - £20,000**
- **Ulster Fleadh 50th Anniversary - Castlewellan - County Down and Castlewellan CCE - £25,000**
- **UK and Ireland Pride – Newry Rainbow Community - £50,000**
- **Maidens of Mourne 30th Anniversary - £20,000**
- **DownTime Festival – Down Community Arts in partnership with Down Community Collective - £30,000**
- **Skiffies Festival – to be delivered by way of Service Level Agreement with Coastal Rowing Association - £40,000**

**FOR NOTING**

**ERT/030/2019: SPIRIT OF LIVE HERE LOVE HERE AWARDS 2019**

**Read:** Report dated 11 February 2019 from Ms M Ward Director Enterprise Regeneration and Tourism regarding the

Strangford Lough and Lecale Partnership Coastal Guardian  
Volunteer nomination for a Spirit of Live Here Love Here  
Award at the LHLH Community Awards 2019.  
**(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** It was unanimously agreed to note the following:

- (a) In addition to the attendance of the Chairman of Council, SLLP propose to nominate: the Chair/Deputy Chair of SLLP committee, SLLP officer and two volunteers who have been involved in the project for invitation to the award ceremony.**
- (b) Regarding volunteers: SLLP propose to invite 2 members of the Down Danderer Rambling Club to the LHLH community awards for their role as SLLP Coastal Guardian volunteers.**

**Note:** The Down Danderers have been constant supporters of any beach cleaning activity organised by SLLP. Their secretary, Pauline McCandless gives of her own time to help SLLP to organise the members to attend beach cleans. They have attended 4 beach clean-ups 2017/2018. By volunteering as SLLP Coastal Guardians, at these events the Down Danderers have helped to clean-up approx. 3 mile of coastline and remove approx 3 tonnes of litter from our shores and given 70 hrs volunteer time.

**ERT/031/2019: EU SWIM PROJECT**

**Read:** Report dated 11 February 2019 from Ms Marie Ward, Director Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism regarding the provision of a site for an electronic sign to be installed next to the beach at Newcastle that will provide the public with live updates of the water quality, as part of the EU Swim Project which is a project funded by the Special EU Programmes Body. **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** It was unanimously agreed to note Report dated 11 February 2019 from Ms Marie Ward, Director Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism regarding the provision of a site for an electronic sign to be installed next to the beach at Newcastle that will provide the public with live updates of the water quality, as part of the EU Swim Project which is a project funded by the Special EU Programmes Body.

**ERT/032/2019: MUSEUM LATES – CARNIVAL OF DELIGHTS**

**Read:** Report dated 11 February 2019 from Mr A Patterson Assistant Director Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism regarding an evaluation of the Carnival of Delights event which was held as part of the Museum Late Shift initiative



which took place in 5 local museums in autumn 2018 and funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund, Tourism NI and Department for Communities. **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** It was unanimously agreed to note Report dated 11 February 2019 from Mr A Patterson Assistant Director Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism regarding an evaluation of the Carnival of Delights event which was held as part of the Museum Late Shift initiative which took place in 5 local museums in autumn 2018 and funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund, Tourism NI and Department for Communities.

**ERT/033/2019: BIGGER PICTURE  
- PEACE IV PROJECT**

**Read:** Report dated 11 February 2019 from Mr A Patterson Assistant Director Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism regarding The Bigger Picture EU Peace IV Project where Down County Museum as part of Building Positive Relations programme funded by the EU PEACE IV initiative, has engaged consultants to coordinate a programme of activities relating to the work of Francis Joseph Bigger in Lecale in the period 1890-1920. **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** It was unanimously agreed to note the programme of activities in Down County Museum relating to the work of Francis Joseph Bigger in Lecale in the period 1890-1920, and promote same to residents in the District.

**ERT/034/2019: ST PATRICK'S DAY - NOTTINGHAM**

**Read:** Report dated 11 February 2019 from Mr A Patterson Assistant Director Enterprise Regeneration and Tourism regarding an invite from Mr Paul Curtis Chairman of the Nottingham St Patrick's Day Parade for an official from Newry Mourne & Down Council to lead the Nottingham St Patrick's Day Parade on 17 March 2019. **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** It was unanimously agreed to note that Councillor Terry Andrews Deputy Chairperson of the Active & Healthy Communities Committee will attend the Nottingham St Patrick's Day Parade on 17 March 2019 on behalf of the Council.

**ERT/035/2019: SCHEME OF DELEGATION**

**Read:** Scheme of Delegation. **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** It was unanimously agreed to note the Scheme of Delegation.

**ERT/036/2019: ERT ACTION TRACKER UPDATE**

Read: ERT Action Tracker Update. **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed: It was unanimously agreed to note the ERT Action Tracker Update.**

**It was also agreed to note in relation to Minute No. ERT/176/2018, that the Draft Heads of Term have now been received by the Chief Executive and discussions will reopen regarding the work on Brexit and border corridors.**

**EXEMPT INFORMATION**

**Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Mulgrew seconded by Councillor McMahon, it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on the following matters which related to exempt information by virtue of Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 – information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Council holding that information).**

**ERT/037/2019: RDP TOURISM APPLICATION – SLIEVE GULLION**

Read: Report dated 11 February 2019 from Mr Andy Patterson, Assistant Director Tourism, Culture and Events regarding an Economic Appraisal update required as part of the full application to be made to DAERA for Rural Tourism Funding for projects at Slieve Gullion Forest Park. **(Copy circulated)**

**ERT/038/2019: TOLLYMORE FOREST PARK – TEA ROOMS**

Read: Report dated 11 February 2019 from Mr Andy Patterson, Assistant Director Tourism, Culture and Events regarding a draft Lease Agreement with DAERA Forest Service and the Council for Café service provision at Tollymore Forest Park. **(Copy circulated)**

**ERT/039/2019: WARRENPOINT BATHS**

Read: Report dated 11 February 2019 from Mr Andy Patterson, Assistant Director Tourism, Culture and Events regarding works at Warrenpoint Baths to facilitate use of the store for storage facilities assessment of the walkway and upper level for future use as potential outdoor space. **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Burgess seconded by Councillor**

**Clarke it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.**

When the Committee came out of closed session the Chairperson reported the following decisions had been agreed:

**ERT/037/2019 – RDP Tourism Application – Slieve Gullion**

**Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Mulgrew seconded by Councillor Byrne it was agreed as follows:**

- (a) Due to significant investment required in Chambre House and initial findings from the Economic Appraisal, it is recommended not to proceed to full application to the DAERA Programme for the Chambre House project as Council objectives to maximise visitor return at the site is unlikely to be achieved.**
- (b) To submit an Expression of Interest to the DAERA Rural Development Programme under the new time-limited call which would consider the following project elements at Slieve Gullion Forest Park:**
  - Events Space and programme**
  - Technological innovations**
  - Visitor Servicing**

**ERT/038/2019 – Tollymore Forest Park – Tea Rooms**

**Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Clarke seconded by Councillor Burgess it was agreed Council Officials engage Forest Service further on the terms of the Lease Agreement to ensure the costs of maintaining and managing the building over this period, including the upkeep and liability of the building, is considered in any Lease Agreement.**

**It was also agreed that issues regarding the cleaning of signage in Tollymore Forest Park be raised with Neighbourhood Services for attention.**

**ERT/039/2019 – Warrenpoint Baths**

**Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Carr seconded by Councillor McAteer it was agreed as follows:**

- (a) To appoint a contractor to undertake remedial Health and Safety works to facilitate use of the store for storage purposes. The estimated cost is expected to be £5000.**

**(b) To undertake a detailed structural assessment of the walkway and upper level to consider future use of the walkway as a potential outdoor space, at an estimated cost of £10,000.**

There being no further business the meeting concluded at 6pm.

For adoption at the Council Meeting to be held on Monday 4 March 2019.

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**Signed: Councillor M Ruane**

**Chairperson of Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Committee**

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**Signed: Ms M Ward**

**Director of Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Committee**