

NEWRY, MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism Committee Meeting
held on Monday 09 March 2020 at 5.00pm in the Boardroom, District
Council Offices, Monaghan Row, Newry**

Chairperson: Councillor R Mulgrew

In attendance: **(Committee Members)**
Councillor T Andrews
Councillor R Burgess
Councillor W Clarke
Councillor O Hanlon
Councillor G Hanna
Councillor V Harte
Councillor M Larkin
Councillor D McAteer
Councillor A McMurray
Councillor H Reilly
Councillor M Ruane
Councillor G Stokes

Officials in attendance: Mr C Mallon Director Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism
Mr A Patterson Assistant Director Tourism Culture &
Events
Mr J McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise Employment &
Regeneration
Mr A McKay Chief Planning Officer
Ms L Dillon Democratic Services Officer

Also in attendance: Mr David Arthurs Social Enterprise NI
Ms Amanda Johnston Social Enterprise NI

ERT/036/2020: APOLOGIES / CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

An apology was received from the following Councillor:

Councillor D Curran

ERT/037/2020: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor R Burgess declared an interest in Item 8 – Report of International Relations Forum Meeting held on Tuesday 25 February 2020.

Councillor H Reilly declared an interest in Item 12 – ERT Service Level Agreements – Mourne Heritage Trust.

Councillor W Clarke declared an interest in Item 12 – ERT Service Level Agreements – Mourne Heritage Trust.

Councillor R Burgess declared an interest in Item 12 – ERT Service Level Agreements – East Border Region.

PRESENTATIONS

**ERT/038/2020: PRESENTATION:
 SOCIAL ENTERPRISE NI**

Mr Arthurs gave a background on the Social Enterprise NI and an update on the work carried out over the past few months. He explained Social Enterprise NI provided support to develop and sustain vibrant businesses across Northern Ireland to help create social change and to ensure Social Enterprise NI becomes a recognised business model to bring about profits in society.

He then gave a presentation.

Ms Johnston also gave a presentation on the findings of work carried out by Social Enterprise NI which identified businesses needed help in the following areas:

- Marketing
- Tendering and procurement
- Business strategy planning

During discussion the following responses were provided to queries raised by Councillors:

The legislation which has been in place since 2013 in England and Wales includes a social value element being contained within tendering processes that will help health and wellbeing of people.

The biggest concentration of business are in areas such as Belfast, Newry and the North West whereas the concentration is smaller in more provincial areas therefore Social Enterprise NI try to work with Councils and Local Enterprise Agencies to get the mentoring support into the smaller areas to ensure one to one support mechanisms can be provided for businesses in their own areas.

Councillor Mulgrew said the Council were well aware of the Social Enterprise NI and the contribution the organisation is making to the community and the local economy and she extended thanks to Mr Arthurs and Ms Johnston for addressing the Committee.

**ERT/039/2020: **ACTION SHEET
MINUTES OF ENTERPRISE, REGENERATION &
TOURISM COMMITTEE MEETING
- MONDAY 11 FEBRUARY 2020****

Read: Action Sheet arising out of the Minutes of the Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism Committee Meeting held on Monday 11 February 2020. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Andrews seconded by Councillor Burgess, it was agreed to note the Action Sheet arising from the Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Committee Meeting held on Monday 11 February 2020.

ENTERPRISE, EMPLOYMENT AND REGENERATION ITEMS

ERT/040/2020: WARRENPOINT MUNICIPAL PARK

Read: Report dated 09 March 2020 from Mr J McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise, Employment and Regeneration regarding Warrenpoint Municipal Park. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Ruane seconded by Councillor McAteer it was agreed as follows:

- (a) Council Officers to review and develop a proposed booking system for Warrenpoint Municipal Park and report back to a future meeting.**

- (b) Council to review the Event Management Plan charges for commercial, voluntary and charity**

bookings for Warrenpoint Park.

- (c) To identify the best model for a “Friends of Group.”**
- (d) To commission and install artwork in the Park celebrating the heritage of Warrenpoint adhering to Council Policy. Local primary and secondary schools will be engaged.**
- (e) Officers to hold a Workshop with Councillors to look at ways to sustain activity at Warrenpoint Municipal Park, including reducing fees, and incorporate arts and culture in the “Friends Of” group.**

ERT/041/2020: CASTLEWELLAN FOREST PARK

Read: Report dated 09 March 2020 from Mr J McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise, Employment and Regeneration regarding funding for the development of Castlewellan Historic Demesne. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: **On the proposal of Councillor McMurray seconded by Councillor Hanna it was agreed**

- (a) To procure an Integrated Supply Team to deliver the DAERA capital works scheme.**
- (b) To seek an extension of the DAERA LoO from 31 January 2021 to March 2021**
- (c) Council has committed £1,049,890 of capital investment to Castlewellan Forest Park and it is recommended that income will be factored as part of the funding package (capital and revenue) to NLHF.**
- (d) Additional funding may be sought from Council depending on the project costs and the funding package offered by NLHF.**
- (e) To develop in principle a Memorandum of Understanding with RBGE, CAFRE and National Botanic Gardens, Kilmacurragh for the purposes of propagation of trees/shrubs, student exchanges, sharing bio-security information etc.**

- (f) To investigate the potential of developing a Partnership Agreement with Annes Grove (managed by Office of Public Works) in Co. Cork for the purposes of co-marketing of gardens, propagation of trees/shrubs, student exchanges etc.
- (g) Request a license agreement from Forest Service/DAERA for the Walled Garden, Bothy Yard etc. to undertake the capital works funded via DAERA.
- (h) To develop an Expression of Interest for vacant space using criteria based on the NLHF project outcomes.
- (i) To organise a Public Consultation for April 2020 in Castlewellan regarding NLHF application.
- (j) To submit an application to NLHF on 1 June 2020.

Mr McGilly explained the project at Castlewellan Forest Park commenced 4 years ago. He said the project was an ongoing in terms of costing exercises and that additional funding would be sought from funders. He said the Council would be kept informed as the project continued.

ERT/042/2020: EAST BORDER REGION CHARTER

Read: Report dated 09 March 2020 from Mr J McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise, Employment and Regeneration regarding the East Border Region Charter – Local Authority Declaration of Commitment. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Andrews seconded by Councillor Burgess it was agreed Newry Mourne & Down District Council agree and sign the East Border Region Charter and work with partner Councils to develop a cross border programme bid for submission under Peace+ Programme.

ERT/043/2020: MEETING: INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS FORUM - TUESDAY 25 FEBRUARY 2020

Read: Report dated 09 March 2020 from Mr J McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise Employment & Regeneration regarding the Report of the International Relations Forum Meeting held on

Tuesday 25 February 2020. (Copy circulated)

AGREED:

On the proposal of Councillor Andrews seconded by Councillor Ruane it was agreed to approve the following recommendations arising from the Report of the International Relations Forum Meeting held on Tuesday 25 February 2020:

China

- (a) To note update provided to the International Relations Forum on recent activity with China.**
- (b) To continue to progress opportunities to strengthen the relationship between Newry, Mourne & Down and China and facilitation of international exchanges for purposes of economic and trade growth, investment, education/skills development and growth of tourism industry.**
- (c) To approve the participation in an NI Innovation Mission China, in partnership with Invest NI, NI Bureau, other NI Councils, Colleges and Universities**
- (d) To approve the delivery at a local level a series of Spot Light in China Business workshops, promoting trade opportunities with China and building capacity among local businesses to engage in these opportunities.**
- (e) To discuss further with NI Bureau in China, and write to Changchun FAO regarding the potential of upgrading the Council to Changchun City partnership from a Friendship Agreement to a full Sister Cities agreement**
- (f) To renew for a further 12 months the MOU between Council and the Confucius Institute at Ulster University for support in China – NMDDC relations (translation services, interpretation services, support in cultural activities etc.**

Russia, Southern Pines, Pinehurst and Aberdeen

- (g) Following discussion, it was proposed by Councillor McKeivitt and seconded by Councillor Tinnelly that Officials would share Council's**

International Relations Strategy with representatives of Kirovsk and Southern Pines, Pinehurst and Aberdeen. Any proposal to then to be assessed against the International Relations Strategy.

- (h) As the International Relationship with both Russia and Southern Pines, Pinehurst and Aberdeen have expired, the relationship will not be renewed until a further proposal is submitted and assessed.**

Lamorlaye, France

- (i) To establish a new International Relations Agreement with Municipalité de Lamorlaye, North of France, on the basis that this proposal meets the essential criteria and at least 2 primary criteria as detailed in the strategy.**
- (j) Council to explore the opportunity to establish an international relationship with an appropriate region in North East America that would complement our international strategy. The Council engages in the opportunity to attend as a platinum sponsor the New York-New Belfast Conference in New York on 11-12 June 2020 at a cost of £5,000 (+ flights / accommodation) as the first step in exploring this potential.**

AGREED: It was also agreed on the proposal of Councillor Ruane seconded by Councillor McAteer to appoint 1 No. Council Official only, to attend the New York-Belfast Conference to be held in New York on 11-12 June 2020 at a cost of £5,000, plus flights and accommodation.

TOURISM CULTURE & EVENTS

ERT/044/2020: **NORTHERN IRELAND TOURISM AWARDS**

Read: Report dated 09 March 2020 from Mr A Patterson Assistant Director Tourism Culture & Events, regarding Council sponsorship of the Northern Ireland Tourism Awards to be held in June 2020. **(Copy circulated).**

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Hanna seconded by Councillor Burgess it was agreed to approve Council sponsorship of the Northern Ireland Tourism Awards to be held on 04 June 2020 in Newcastle, at a cost of £10,000.

ERT/045/2020: **ARTS CULTURAL & HERITAGE STRATEGY LAUNCH**

Read: Report dated 09 March 2020 from Mr A Patterson Assistant Director Tourism Culture & Events, regarding the launch of the Council's new Arts Cultural & Heritage Strategy. **(Copy circulated).**

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Burgess seconded by Councillor Clarke it was agreed to approve the new Arts Cultural & Heritage Strategy and Action Plan.

EXEMPT INFORMATION

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Burgess seconded by Councillor Hanna it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on the following matter 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/046/2020: ULSTER ORCHESTRA

Read: Report dated 09 March 2020 from Mr A Patterson Assistant Director Tourism Culture & Events, regarding funding for two concerts by the Ulster Orchestra to be held in the District.
(Copy circulated)

(5.40pm – Councillor Andrews left the Meeting)

(5.45pm – Councillors Hanna and Clarke withdrew from the meeting)

ERT/047/2020: ERT SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENTS

Read: Report dated 09 March 2020 from Mr A Patterson Assistant Director Tourism Culture & Events, regarding ERT Service Level Agreements 2020/2021.**(Copy circulated)**

(5.47pm – Councillors Hanna and Clarke re-joined the meeting)

ERT/048/2020: TEA ROOMS – TOLLYMORE FOREST PARK

Read: Report dated 09 March 2020 from Mr A Patterson Assistant Director Tourism Culture & Events, regarding update on costs for repairs to Tea Rooms at Tollymore Forest Park.
(Copy circulated)

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Burgess seconded by Councillor McMurray it was agreed to come out of Closed Session.

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

ERT/046/2020: Ulster Orchestra

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Stokes seconded by Councillor Burgess it was agreed the Council support the proposal from the Ulster Orchestra by providing funding in the sum of £10,000 for 2 No. concerts to be held in the 2020/2021 financial year.

AGREED: It was also agreed officers address complaints from the public regarding the provision of refreshments during performance intervals.

ERT/047/2020: ERT Service Level Agreements

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor McMurray seconded by Councillor Hanlon it was agreed to approve the list of Service Level Agreements for 2020/21 as contained in Point 2.1 of Report dated 09 March 2020 from Mr A Patterson Assistant Director Tourism Culture & Events.

ERT/048/2020: Tea Rooms – Tollymore Forest Park

AGREED: It was agreed to note Report dated 09 March 2020 from Mr A Patterson Assistant Director Tourism Culture & Events, regarding update on costs for repairs to Tea Rooms at Tollymore Forest Park.

FOR NOTING

ERT/049/2020: DAERA RE: RURAL MICRO GRANT PILOT SCHEME

Read: Report dated 09 March 2020 from Mr J McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise Employment & Regeneration regarding an update on the DAERA Rural Micro Grant Pilot Scheme.
(Copy circulated)

AGREED: It was agreed to note the update provided on the DAERA Rural Micro Grant Scheme which has been administered by Council, and which has awarded grant of £67,215.28 to a total of 18 rural micro businesses operating across the District.

**ERT/050/2020: ARTISAN MARKETS:
DOWNPATRICK ; NEWCASTLE ; WARRENPOINT**

Read: Report dated 09 March 2020 from Mr J McGilly, Assistant Director, Enterprise Employment and Regeneration regarding Artisan Markets in Downpatrick, Newcastle and Warrenpoint.
(Copy circulated).

AGREED: It was agreed to note the update regarding the delivery of Artisan Markets in Downpatrick, Newcastle and Warrenpoint during 2019/2020, which provides detail on attendance figures and the continued success of the project.

ERT/051/2020: **BRANDING AND SIGNAGE
NEWRY & MOURNE MUSEUM**

Read: Report dated 09 March 2020 from Mr A Patterson Assistant Director, Tourism Culture and Events regarding providing an update regarding the new branding and signage for Newry and Mourne Museum. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: It was agreed to note the update regarding the new branding and signage for Newry and Mourne Museum.

ERT/052/2020: **LOUTH / NMD JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING
- WEDNESDAY 04 DECEMBER 2019**

Read: Report of Louth/NMD Joint Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 04 December 2019. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: It was agreed to note the Report of Louth/NMD Joint Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 04 December 2019.

ERT/053/2020: **PLANNING PERFORMANCE FIGURES**

Read: Planning Performance Figures for February 2020. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: It was agreed to note Planning Performance Figures for February 2020.

ERT/054/2020: **HISTORIC ACTION TRACKER
ENTERPRISE REGENERATION & TOURISM**

Read: Action Tracker Report for Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Committee. **(Copy circulated)**

Noted: To note the Historic Action Tracker Report for Enterprise

Regeneration & Tourism Committee.

There being no further business the meeting concluded at 5.55pm

For adoption at the Council Meeting to be held on Monday 06 April 2020.

Signed: Councillor R Mulgrew

Chairperson of Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Committee

Signed: Mr C Mallon

Director of Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Committee