

NEWRY MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism Committee Meeting
held on Monday 14 December 2020 at 6.00pm remotely via Microsoft Teams**

Chairperson: Councillor A McMurray

In attendance: (Committee Members)

Councillor R Burgess

Councillor D Curran

Councillor W Clarke

Councillor G Hanna

Councillor V Harte

Councillor R Howell

Councillor M Larkin

Councillor D McAteer

Councillor R Mulgrew

Councillor H Reilly

Councillor M Ruane

Councillor M Savage

Councillor G Stokes

Councillor J Tinnelly

Non Members: Councillor T Andrews

Councillor P Byrne

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

Mr C Jackson Assistant Director of Building Control &
Regulation

Ms L Dillon Democratic Services Officer

Ms L O Hare Democratic Services Officer

ERT/172/2020: APOLOGIES / CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

No apologies.

ERT/173/2020: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest.

ERT/174/2020: MESSAGE OF CONGRATULATIONS

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Tinnelly seconded by Councillor Stokes it was agreed to send a letter of congratulations from the Council to Dr Gerard O Hare on his appointment as Chair of Warrenpoint Harbour Authority.

**ERT/175/2020: ACTION SHEET
MINUTES OF ENTERPRISE, REGENERATION &
TOURISM COMMITTEE MEETING
- MONDAY 09 NOVEMBER 2020**

Read: Action Sheet arising out of the Minutes of the Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism Committee Meeting held on Monday 09 November 2020. (Copy circulated)

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Tinnelly seconded by Councillor Savage it was agreed to note the Action Sheet arising from the Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Committee Meeting held on Monday 12 October 2020.

ENTERPRISE EMPLOYMENT & REGENERATION

ERT/176/2020: AONB: TERMS OF REFERENCE

Read: Report dated 14 December 2020 from Mr J McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise Employment & Regeneration regarding an update on the reviewed Terms of Reference for AONB Partnerships and the development of a potential project for a Shared History Fund. (Copy circulated)

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

- 1. To approve the signing of the reviewed Terms of Reference for AONB Partnerships, subject to final signed off by legal officers and agreement with AONB Partners**
- 2. To approve that officers liaise with partners on the development on a project that may be applicable to the Shared History Fund and submit an application if applicable.**

ERT/177/2020: **COVID 19 REVITALISATION SCHEME**

Read: Report dated 14 December 2020 from Mr J McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise Employment & Regeneration regarding the Covid 19 Revitalisation Scheme. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Savage seconded by Councillor Clarke it was agreed as follows:

- 1. When received, Council to accept additional funding from DFC and DEARA totalling £147,000 for the Business Covid 19 Grants Scheme.**
- 2. To note Council will continue to engage with lead Departments to deliver on an acceptable programme of activity that can be implemented within the appropriate timescales.**
- 3. Council will open a new application for Business Grants offering eligible businesses a grant of up to £2,000 towards defined eligible items relating to Covid 19 compliance, with budget to be allocated on a first come first awarded basis up to the budget available (£1,033 M) across stage 1 and stage 2 grant application processes.**
- 4. Officers to bring a report to the ERT Committee in January 2021 detailing a breakdown on the areas within the District where Covid 19 Revitalisation Scheme grants have been awarded.**

Noted: As part of the Covid 19 Recovery Working Group, Council will engage with the Department to ascertain how to continue

providing assistance to businesses including support for retraining.

ERT/178/2020: DEVELOPMENT OF DUBLIN / BELFAST CORRIDOR

Read: Report dated 14 December 2020 from Mr C Mallon Director Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism regarding nominees to a Political Advisory Group regarding the development of the Dublin / Belfast Economic Corridor. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Burgess seconded by Councillor Stokes it was agreed nominations to the Dublin / Belfast Economic Corridor Political Advisory Group be deferred for consideration by the Party Leaders Group.

**ERT/179/2020: PUBLIC REALM SCHEME
LOWER HILL STREET NEWRY**

Read: Report dated 14 December 2020 from Mr J McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise Employment & Regeneration regarding the Lower Hill Street Newry Public Realm Scheme. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Stokes seconded by Councillor Savage it was agreed:

- (a) Utilising the existing Risk Allowances and Contingency figures from the previously agreed Economic Appraisal, Council approve a variation to the existing contracts and issue of a new Purchase Order if required to cover the consultant and contractor additional contractual costs as funded by Department for Communities under the Newry Lower Hill Street Public Realm Scheme.**
- (b) To approve an updated Letter of Offer from the Department for Communities to provide the previously agreed Risk Allowance and Contingency Figures now required for the Newry Lower Hill Street Public Realm Scheme.**

ERT/180/2020: NMDDC COVID 19 RECOVERY WORKING GROUP

Read: Report dated 14 December 2020 from Mr C Mallon Director Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism regarding the proposed establishment of a Covid 19 Recovery Working Group.
(Copy circulated)

Members raised the following points:

- The membership on the new Covid 19 Recovery Working Group should be done on the same basis as membership for the Party Group Leaders to ensure fair representation.
- In light of the fact Northern Ireland will be outside of the European Common Fishing Policy and the opportunities this will present to the fishing ports of Kilkeel and Ardglass, that Council consider meeting with the relevant fishing representative groups to discuss going forward from 1 January 2021.

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Stokes seconded by Councillor Harte it was agreed to approve the establishment of a NMDDC Covid 19 Recovery Working Group as per the Terms of Reference contained in Report dated 14 December 2020 from Mr C Mallon Director Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism.

Note: Terms of Reference would be amended to reflect the recommended membership of the Working Group.

ERT/181/2020: ALL IRELAND SMART CITIES FORUM

Read: Report dated 14 December 2020 from Mr J McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise Employment & Regeneration regarding renewal of Council membership on the All Ireland Smart Cities Forum (AISCF) **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Stokes seconded by Councillor McAteer it was agreed Newry Mourne & Down District Council continue to avail of the expertise from the All Ireland Smart Cities Forum, and that 1 No. Officer from the ERT Department and 1 No. representative from East Border Region attend the meetings and feed back into the relevant Departments.

ERT/182/2020: UNIVERSAL BASIC INCOME STEERING GROUP NI

Read: Report dated 14 December 2020 from Mr C Mallon regarding the appointment of members to sit on a Universal Basic Income Steering Group for Northern Ireland. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Mulgrew seconded by Councillor Burgess it was agreed that the nomination of Members to the Universal Basic Income Steering Group NI, be deferred for consideration by Party Leaders Group.

ERT/183/2020: WARRENPOINT MARINA PROJECT

Read: Report dated 09 November 2020 from Mr J McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise Employment Regeneration regarding the next steps for the Warrenpoint Marina Project. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor McAteer seconded by Councillor Ruane it was agreed the findings of the updated Business Case for the Warrenpoint Marina Project and next steps for the project, be presented to the Strategic Finance Working Group for consideration.

ERT/184/2020: WOMEN IN BUSINESS PROGRAMME: YES YOU CAN

Read: Report dated 14 December 2020 from Mr J McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise Employment Regeneration regarding the Yes You Can - Women in Business Programme. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Mulgrew seconded by Councillor Harte it was agreed Council approve the continued participation in 'The NI Woman in Enterprise Challenge' at a cost of £6,060 for the final Year/ Year 3.

TOURISM CULTURE & EVENTS

ERT/185/2020: SEA TOURS: NEWCASTLE HARBOUR

Read: Report dated 14 December 2020 from Mr A Patterson Assistant

Director Tourism Culture & Events regarding a Business Case for approval to tender for an operator to offer Sea / Charter Boat Tours from Newcastle Harbour. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Hanna seconded by Councillor Clarke it was agreed on completion of the procurement exercise, to award the contract to the most economically advantageous tender for an operator to offer Sea / Charter Boat Tours from Newcastle Harbour.

BULDING CONTROL & REGULATIONS

**ERT/1862020: BUILDING CONTROL
CUSTOMER SATISFACTION SURVEY 2020**

Read: Report dated 14 December 2020 from Mr C Jackson Assistant Director Building Control regarding the Building Control Customer Satisfaction Survey 2020. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Mulgrew seconded by Councillor Stokes it was agreed to approve the Building Control Satisfaction Survey Report 2020.

(7.00pm – Cllr P Byrne left the meeting)

**ERT/187/2020: DANGEROUS STRUCTURE
WARRENPOINT**

Read: Report dated 14 December 2020 from Mr C Jackson Assistant Director Building Control regarding a dangerous wall located between Ashley Heights and Oak Grange Warrenpoint. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Ruane seconded by Councillor McAteer it was agreed the Council's Maintenance Department proceed to remove approximately 6m of a dangerous wall between Ashley Heights and Oak Grange Warrenpoint, and erect timber fencing.

EXEMPT INFORMATION

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Burgess seconded by Councillor Mulgrew 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/188/2020: TOURISM SIGNAGE PROGRAMME
NMD WAYFINDING PROJECT 2020/21**

Read: Report dated 14 December 2020 from Mr A Patterson Assistant Director Tourism Culture & Arts, regarding NMD Wayfinding Project 2020/21. **(Copy circulated)**

**ERT/189/2020: EXTENSION OF LICENCE
KILBRONEY PARK CAFÉ**

Read: Report dated 14 December 2020 from Mr A Patterson Assistant Director Tourism Culture & Arts, regarding the Licence for the Kilbroney Park Café. **(Copy circulated)**

**ERT/190/2020: SECURITY PROVISION
KILBRONEY CARAVAN PARK**

Read: Report dated 14 December 2020 from Mr A Patterson Assistant Director Tourism Culture & Arts, regarding certified security provision at Kilbroney Caravan Park. **(Copy circulated)**

**ERT/191/2020: SOUTHERN RELIEF ROAD SCHEME
PROVISION OF LIFTING BRIDGE**

Read: Report dated 14 December 2020 from Mr C Mallon Director Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism regarding a Lifting Bridge to Newry City and District as part of the Southern Relief Road scheme. **(Copy circulated)**

(7.26pm – Councillor Tinnelly left the meeting)

ERT/192/2020: RENEWAL OF TASCOMI SUBSCRIPTION

Read: Report dated 14 December 2020 from Mr C Jackson Assistant Director Building Control, regarding the renewal of the Tascomi software subscription. **(Copy circulated)**

ERT/193/2020: VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE PROVISION

Read: Report dated 14 December 2020 from Mr A Patterson Assistant Director Tourism Culture & Arts, regarding Visitor Information Centre provision. **(Copy circulated)**

ERT/194/2020: NEWRY BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT (BID)

Read: Report dated 14 December 2020 from Mr C Mallon Director Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism regarding Newry Business Improvement District (BID).

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

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

**ERT/188/2020: Tourism Signage Programme
NMD Wayfinding Project 2020/21**

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Mulgrew seconded by Councillor Stokes it was agreed to accept the Business Case for Tourism Signage Programme which will be 100% funded by the Department for Communities and procurements as required to progress project.

ERT/189/2020: Extension of Licence: Kilbroney Park Café

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Stokes seconded by Councillor McAteer it was agreed to extend the Licence for the Kilbroney Park Café for a further 2 year period until 31 December 2022,

and undertake a new procurement exercise in 2022 for provision from 1 January 2023.

ERT/190/2020: Security Provision: Kilbroney Caravan Park

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Tinnelly seconded by Councillor McAteer it was agreed to approve the Business Case to undertake the relevant procurement exercises to appoint a suitable supplier to meet the requirement set out in Report dated 14 December 2020 from Mr A Patterson Assistant Director Tourism Culture & Arts, regarding certified security provision at Kilbroney Caravan Park

**ERT/191/2020: Southern Relief Road Scheme
Provision of Lifting Bridge**

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Savage seconded by Councillor Mulgrew it was agreed Council Officers re-engage with the appointed Economist through a variation of contract to produce a detailed report for submission to the Department for Infrastructure on the future economic benefits of a Lifting Bridge to Newry City and the District.

ERT/192/2020: Renewal of Tascomi Subscription

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Stokes seconded by Councillor McAteer it was agreed to approve the extension of the IDOX (Tascomi) software package for Building Control for the next 3 years.

ERT/193/2020: Visitor Information Centre Provision

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Burgess seconded by Councillor Curran it was agreed to approve the recommendations set out in Report dated 14 December 2020 from Mr A Patterson Assistant Director Tourism Culture & Arts, regarding Visitor Information Centre provision.

ERT/194/2020: Newry Business Improvement District (BID)

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Savage seconded by Councillor Mulgrew it was agreed based on the detail presented to date in the Draft Business Plan, to approve the Strategy subject to submission of the final draft ahead of Council Meeting on 04

January 2021.

FOR NOTING

ERT/195/2020: UPDATE RE: BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES

Read: Report dated 14 December 2020 from Mr J McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise Employment & Regeneration regarding an update on Business Development Programmes.
(Copy circulated)

AGREED: To note the update provided under business development initiatives as follows:

- **Go For It – producing 135 business plans, between April 2020 and October 2020.**
- **NMD Growth – supporting 443 individual businesses with a total of 4413.75 mentoring hours delivered as at October 2020. In addition to 24 ½ day workshops and 7 thematic programmes implemented from Programme commencement.**
- **Digital Growth – supported individual 72 businesses as at October 2020 with 137.5 hours mentoring support, along with the delivery of 7 workshops and 2 masterclasses.**
- **Tender for Growth – new procurement and supply chain programme appointed, launched in June 2020, with recruitment presently ongoing has already supported 32 businesses as at October 2020, with 253 men.**

ERT/196/2020: UPDATE RE: FULL FIBRE NORTHERN IRELAND (FFNI)

Read: Report dated 14 December 2020 from Mr J McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise Employment & Regeneration providing an update on Full Fibre Northern Ireland (FFNI).
(Copy circulated)

AGREED: To note progress regarding Full Fibre Northern Ireland (FFNI), as per Report dated 14 December 2020 from Mr J McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise Employment & Regeneration.

**ERT/197/2020: HISTORIC ACTION TRACKER
ENTERPRISE REGENERATION & TOURISM**

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

AGREED: To note the Historic Action Tracker Report for Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Committee.

**ERT/198/2020: IMPACT OF PLANNING DECISION
DELAY ON LOCAL ECONOMY**

Read: Report dated 14 December 2020 from Mr C Mallon Director Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism regarding Planning Application processing times and impact on investment decisions. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: To note Report dated 14 December 2020 from Mr C Mallon Director Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism regarding Planning Application processing times and impact on investment decisions.

ERT/199/2020: INNOVATION ENTERPRISE ZONES (FREE PORTS)

Read: Report dated 14 December 2020 from Mr C Mallon Director Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism regarding an update on Free Port consultation. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: To note Report dated 14 December 2020 from Mr C Mallon Director Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism regarding an update on Free Port Consultation exercise and how the project will develop and to note the consultation feedback to date and support the emerging concept of NI Innovation zone within the context of Free Port status.

ERT/200/2020: IRISH STREET REGENERATION PROJECT

Read: Report dated 14 December 2020 from Mr J McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise Employment & Regeneration regarding the Irish Street Regeneration Project. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: To note Report of the Irish Street Regeneration Working Group Meeting held on 11 November 2020.

ERT/201/2020: **LOUTH / NEWRY MOURNE & DOWN STRATEGIC ALLIANCE MEETING**

Read: Report of Louth / Newry Mourne & Down Strategic Alliance Meeting held on Wednesday 16 September 2020.
(Copy circulated)

AGREED: To note Report of the Louth / Newry Mourne & Down Strategic Alliance Meeting held on Wednesday 16 September 2020.

ERT/202/2020: **PLANNING PERFORMANCE FIGURES – NOVEMBER 2020**

Read: Report regarding Planning Performance Figures for November 2020. **(Copy circulated)**

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

ERT/203/2020: **UPDATE RE: TACKLING RURAL POVERTY AND SOCIAL ISOLATION PROGRAMMES (TRPSI)**

Read: Report dated 14 December 2020 from Mr G McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise Employment & Regeneration regarding the Tackling Rural Poverty and Social Isolation Programmes.
(Copy circulated)

AGREED: To note progress regarding the delivery of the Tackling Rural Poverty and Social Isolation Programmes (TRPSI).

ERT/204/2020: **UPDATE RE: BREXIT FORUM MEETINGS**

Read: Report dated 14 December 2020 from Mr G McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise Employment & Regeneration regarding Brexit Forum Meetings. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: To note content of Reports of Brexit Forum Meetings held on:
Thursday 10 September 2020
Tuesday 06 October 2020
Tuesday 24 November 2020

ERT/205/2020: **UPDATE RE: URBAN CENTRE MASTERPLANS**

Read: Report dated 14 December 2020 from Mr C Mallon
Director Enterprise Regeneration Tourism regarding Urban
Centre Masterplans. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: To note the masterplan priority review exercise to be undertaken for the 6 main Urban Centres through the District Electoral Areas (DEAs).

ERT/206/2020: **UPDATE RE: IRISH STREET CAR PARK**

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Curran seconded by Councillor Savage it was agreed a report be tabled at the ERT Committee Meeting January 2021 containing an update on the Irish Street Car Park.

There being no further business the meeting concluded at 7.55pm.

For adoption at the Council Meeting to be held on Monday 04 January 2021.

Signed: **Councillor A McMurray**
Chairperson of Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Committee

Signed: **Mr C Mallon**
Director of Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Committee