

NEWRY MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism Committee Meeting
held on Monday 08 August 2022 at 6.00pm in the Chamber Council Offices
Monaghan Row Newry, and remotely via Microsoft Teams**

Chairperson: Councillor R Burgess (Chamber)

Deputy Chairperson: Councillor D Curran (Chamber)

In attendance: **(Committee Members)**
Councillor C Enright (Teams)
Councillor R Howell (Chamber)
Councillor M Larkin (Teams)
Councillor D Lee-Surginor (Chamber)
Councillor R Mulgrew (Chamber)
Councillor M Ruane (Chamber)
Councillor J Trainor (Chamber)
Councillor G Stokes (Chamber)
Councillor H Reilly (Teams)

Non Members: Councillor A McMurray (Teams)

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

ERT/114/2022: APOLOGIES / CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

Councillor T Andrews.

ERT/115/2022: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest.

**ERT/116/2022: ACTION SHEET
MINUTES OF ENTERPRISE, REGENERATION &
TOURISM COMMITTEE MEETING
MONDAY 13 JUNE 2022**

Read: Action Sheet arising out of the Minutes of the Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism Committee Meeting held on Monday 13 June 2022. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Mulgrew seconded by Councillor Howell it was agreed to note the Action Sheet arising from the Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism Committee Meeting held on Monday 13 June 2022.

ENTERPRISE EMPLOYMENT & REGENERATION

ERT/117/2022: DOWNPATRICK REGENERATION WORKING GROUP

Read: Report dated 08 August 2022 from Mr J McGilly, Assistant Director Enterprise Employment and Regeneration regarding the establishment of a Downpatrick Regeneration Working Group. **(Copy circulated)**

Councillor Curran said following the Notice of Motion he submitted to the ERT Committee Meeting, Officers were to look at the feasibility of a Town Centre Manager for Downpatrick and engage with key stakeholders. He said following this engagement it was agreed to establish a Downpatrick Regeneration Working Group representative of all sections working towards a shared vision of Downpatrick and whilst he expressed disappointment the appointment of a Town Centre Manager was not pursued, he stressed the importance of building the economy in Downpatrick. Councillor Curran proposed the approval of the recommendations contained in the officers report to establish a Downpatrick Regeneration Working Group.

Councillor Enright seconded Councillor Curran's proposal, albeit reluctantly as he felt the original masterplan for Downpatrick which was commissioned in the legacy Council, contained a number of elements which received support from the community and businesses. Councillor Enright expressed concerns that the key findings from the original plan would not be reflected in any new proposals going forward.

Councillor Lee-Surginor proposed inviting the 3 No. MLAs based in Downpatrick to join the Downpatrick Regeneration Working Group. Councillor Enright seconded this proposal.

Councillor Reilly proposed an amendment that all 5 No. MLAs from the South Down constituency be invited. He also congratulated Councillor Curran on the work he had done for Downpatrick.

Councillors Lee-Surginor and Enright accepted Councillor Reilly's amendment to their proposal to invite all 5 No. South Down MLAs to join the Downpatrick Regeneration Working Group.

Councillor Ruane queried Councillor Lee-Surginor's proposal and sought clarification as to whether this was normal practice.

Mr Mallon said would be unusual to invite MLAs to join a Council Working Group of this nature nor was he aware of MLAs being members of any other Working Groups or project boards within Council.

Councillor Mulgrew proposed seeking further guidance and referring the matter to the SPR Committee to establish whether including MLAs on a Working Group would be setting a precedent, and adding as the work would be carried by Council, it would be assumed that updates on progress would be forwarded back to MLAs and MPs through party structures. Councillor Howell seconded the proposal.

Councillor Enright indicated he was not in agreement with Councillor Mulgrew's proposal and stressed the need for support from Stormont to bring forward the regeneration of Downpatrick and said he would like to see MLAs and the MP for the area being given the opportunity to feed into the process.

Councillor Curran said his original proposal to accept the recommendations contained in the officer's report remained as he believed this was the best way forward Downpatrick at the present time.

The Chairperson asked if all Members were in agreement with the first proposal, by Councillor Curran, seconded by Councillor Enright, to accept the recommendations contained in the officer's report dated 08 August 2022.

Members indicated their agreement for the above proposal with no objections.

The Chairperson therefore declared the original proposal carried with all subsequent proposals lost.

**AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Curran seconded by
Councillor Enright it was agreed:**

- 1. To establish a Downpatrick Regeneration Working Group with the key aim to develop and oversee the implementation of regeneration priorities identified as part of stakeholder engagement and new emerging priorities.**
- 2. Approve the Terms of Reference in Appendix 1.**

TOURISM CULTURE & EVENTS

ERT/118/2022: NEWRY CHAMBER MUSIC ARTS AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAMME

Read: Report dated 08 August 2022 from Mr A Patterson Assistant Director Tourism Culture & Events regarding Newry Chamber Music Arts and Community Outreach Programme. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: **On the proposal of Councillor Mulgrew, seconded by Councillor Stokes, it was agreed to provide support via a Service Level Agreement between Council and Newry Chamber Music for the delivery of an arts and community outreach programme in the 2022/23 season.**

ERT/119/2022: HOSPITALITY EXCHANGE

Read: Report dated 08 August 2022 from Mr A Patterson Assistant Director Tourism Culture & Events regarding Hospitality Exchange Conference and Exhibition in October 2022. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: **On the proposal of Councillor Mulgrew, seconded by Councillor Howell, it was agreed to provide Council sponsorship of £1,200 for the Hospitality Exchange conference and exhibition to be hosted in October 2022.**

ERT/120/2022: NEWRY ARTS FESTIVAL

Read: Report dated 08 August 2022 from Mr A Patterson Assistant Director Tourism Culture & Events regarding Newry Arts Festival. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Mulgrew, seconded by Councillor Stokes, it was agreed to approve that officers develop proposals and deliver the Re:Image Arts Festival to be hosted in Newry this year that will celebrate the rich history and legacy of the Arts in Newry.

EXEMPT INFORMATION

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Ruane seconded by Councillor Curran 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/121/2022: INTERIM BUSINESS GROWTH SUPPORT

Read: Report dated 08 August 2022 from Mr J McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism, regarding Interim Business Growth. **(Copy circulated)**

ERT/122/2022: AONB AND GEOPARK – UPCOMING PROJECTS

Read: Report dated 08 August 2022 from Mr J McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism, regarding AONB and Geopark – upcoming projects. **(Copy circulated)**

ERT/123/2022: DELAMONT COUNTRY PARK TRAILS ENHANCEMENT PROJECT

Read: Report dated 08 August 2022 from Mr A Patterson Assistant Director Tourism Culture & Events, regarding Delamont Country Park Trails Enhancement Project. **(Copy circulated)**

ERT/124/2022: REQUEST TO USE COUNCIL LAND – KILBRONEY PARK

Read: Report dated 08 August 2022 from Mr A Patterson Assistant Director Tourism Culture & Events, regarding request to use Council land, Kilbroney Park on 15/16 October 2022. **(Copy circulated)**

ERT/125/2022: TOURISM EVENTS

Read: Report dated 08 August 2022 from Mr A Patterson Assistant Director Tourism Culture & Events, regarding Tourism Events. **(Copy circulated)**

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

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

ERT/121/2022: Interim Business Growth Support

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

- 1. To approve the procurement and implementation of an interim business growth support programme which delivers a suite of business growth support interventions in 2023/24.**
- 2. To approve the procurement of the above during 2022/23 in order to ensure provision is in place for January 2023.**

ERT/122/2022: AONB and Geopark – Upcoming Projects

Following a query from Councillor Enright, Mr Mallon agreed to convene a meeting with all relevant groups to examine options available to develop off-road trails.

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

- 1. To approve the business case for the Environment Fund Challenge Fund 2022, and subject to a Letter of Offer**

- being secured, approval to proceed to procurement and implementation of the individual projects outlined.
2. To approve the business case for Slieve Gullion Erosion Control and Path Repairs PHASE 3, and subject to a Letter of Offer being secured, approval to proceed to procurement and implementation of the individual projects outlined.
 3. To approve the implementation of the Global Geoparks Councils recommendations from their meeting in December 2021.
 4. To approve establishing a Service Level Agreement with Outdoor Recreation NI (ORNI) for 2022-2023.

ERT/123/2022: Delamont Country Park Trails Enhancement Project

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Burgess seconded by Councillor Mulgrew it was agreed as follows:

1. To proceed with the delivery of the project subject to funding approval.
2. To approve a Capital contribution as set out in Section 4.1 of above Report.
3. To utilise the existing Council Framework for construction works.
4. To undertake the necessary procurement exercise to appoint a suitable company to carry out design, supply and installation of all signage, interpretation and furniture/seating.

ERT/124/2022: Request to use Council land – Kilbroney Park

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Ruane seconded by Councillor Howell it was agreed to approve the event subject to the conditions set out in 3.1 of the Report.

ERT/125/2022: Tourism Events

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Mulgrew seconded by Councillor Howell it was agreed to note the contents of Report dated 08 August 2022 from Mr A Patterson Assistant

Director Tourism Culture & Events, regarding Tourism Events.

FOR NOTING

ERT/126/2022: LEVELLING UP FUND

Read: Report dated 08 August 2022 from Mr C Mallon Director Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism regarding Levelling Up Fund.
(Copy circulated)

Councillor Enright referred to a Notice of Motion which had been tabled regarding the inclusion of the Albert Basin in the Levelling Up Scheme.

Noted: Mr Mallon explained the Notice of Motion being referred to had not been approved in its original form when presented to Committee, but instead had been amended by the ERT Committee to have a meeting with the Economic Forum to discuss the Notice of Motion. He said there had been no agreement to have the Albert Basin included in any available funding and he said he would update Councillor Enright with the details.

AGREED: **On the proposal of Councillor Curran seconded by Councillor Stokes it was agreed to note the contents of the above Report.**

ERT/127/2022: UPDATE RE: AONB AND GEOPARK

Read: Report dated 08 August 2022 from Mr J McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism providing an update on the AONB and Geopark initiatives being delivered by NMDDC AONB and Geopark staff. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: **On the proposal of Councillor Curran seconded by Councillor Stokes it was agreed to note the update provided on the AONB and Geopark initiatives being delivered by NMDDC AONB and Geopark staff.**

ERT/128/2022: PSNI (DOWNPATRICK) STATION SITE WORKING GROUP

Read: Report dated 08 August 2022 from Mr J McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise Employment Regeneration regarding a meeting of the Former Downpatrick PSNI Station site Working Group held on 20 July 2022. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Curran seconded by Councillor Stokes it was agreed to note Report of the Former Downpatrick PSNI Station site Working Group Meeting held on 20 July 2022 and Irish Street Development Scheme (Downpatrick) Co-operation agreement between NMDDC and Department for Communities.

ERT/129/2022: REVIEW OF BATHING WATER NOMINATIONS

Read: Report dated 08 August 2022 from Mr A Patterson Assistant Director Tourism Culture & Events, regarding a review of Bathing Water Nominations. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Curran seconded by Councillor Stokes it was agreed to note the contents of this Report on Council's nominations to DAERA to consider Camlough Lake and Warrenpoint's Sandy Bottom as a designated 'Bathing Waters' for further consideration and surveys.

ERT/130/2022: UPDATE RE: FULL FIBRE NORTHERN IRELAND

Read: Report dated 08 August 2022 from Mr J McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise Employment & Regeneration regarding an update on Full Fibre Northern Ireland. **(Copy circulated)**

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

- 1. To note the contents of the update on Department for Digital Culture Media & Sport (DCMS) projects managed under Full Fibre NI.**
- 2. To note that the Council are now exploring through various service areas how Digital Transformation projects can be facilitated through the installation of Full Fibre.**

ERT/131/2022: NMD WAYFINDING PROJECT 20/21

Read: Report dated 08 August 2022 from Mr A Patterson Assistant Director Tourism Culture & Events, regarding NMD Wayfinding Project 20/21. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Curran seconded by Councillor Stokes it was agreed to note the contents of the above Report.

ERT/132/2022: WARRENPOINT BOATING CLUB BUILDING TEMPORARY LEASE

Read: Report dated 08 August 2022 from Mr J McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise Employment & Regeneration regarding a temporary Lease for Warrenpoint Boating Club building. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Curran seconded by Councillor Stokes it was agreed to note that a legal Lease Agreement is to be put in place between Council and Public Realm Contractors (Gibson Banbridge Ltd) for part of the Warrenpoint Boating Club Building for the period of on-site works along Warrenpoint's Front Shore.

ERT/133/2022: UPDATE RE: NEW PLANNING IT SYSTEM

Read: Report dated 08 August 2022 from Mr C Mallon Director Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism regarding the implementation of the new Planning IT System. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Curran seconded by Councillor Stokes it was agreed to note the above Report.

ERT/134/2022: ERT SCHEME OF DELEGATION (01 OCTOBER – 31 MARCH 2022)

Read: Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Department Scheme of Delegation 01 October 2021 – 31 March 2022. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Curran seconded by Councillor Stokes it was agreed to note the Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Department Scheme of Delegation 01 October 2021 – 31 March 2022.

ERT/135/2022: **ERT HISTORIC ACTION TRACKER**

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

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Curran seconded by Councillor Stokes it was agreed to note the Historic Action Tracker Sheet for Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Committee.

ERT/136/2022: **PLANNING PERFORMANCE FIGURES**

Read: Report regarding Planning Performance Figures for June 2022. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Curran seconded by Councillor Stokes it was agreed to note the Planning Performance Figures for June 2022.

There being no further business the meeting concluded at 6.40pm.

For adoption at the Council Meeting to be held on Monday 05 September 2022.

Signed: **Councillor R Burgess**
Chairperson
Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Committee

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