

NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of Neighbourhood Services Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 23 March 2022 at 6.00pm in the Boardroom, District Council Offices, Monaghan Row, Newry and via MS Teams.

Chair: Councillor K Owen (Teams)

Members: Councillor T Andrews (Teams)
Councillor P Brown (Teams)
Councillor C Casey (Teams)
Councillor W Clarke (Teams)
Councillor D Curran (Teams)
Councillor G Malone (Teams)
Councillor D Murphy (Teams)
Councillor O Magennis (Teams)
Councillor K McKeivitt (Teams)
Councillor M Ruane (Teams)
Councillor H McKee (Teams)
Councillor M Ruane (Teams)
Councillor D Taylor (Teams)

Officials in Attendance: Mr J McBride Director Neighbourhood Services (Acting)
Mr K Scullion, Assistant Director Facilities Management and Maintenance
Ms S Murphy, Acting Assistant Director Waste Management
Ms L Dillon, Democratic Services Officer
Ms C McAteer, Democratic Services Officer

Also in attendance: Mr A Cassells SIB Advisor to Neighbourhood Services

NS/028/2022: APOLOGIES AND CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

Apologies were received from Councillor Curran and Councillor Finnegan.

The Chairperson extended the best wishes to Councillor Casey's wife who recently had a bad fall and on behalf of the Committee, wished her a speedy recovery to good health.

Councillor Casey thanked the Members for their good wishes and also for the bouquet of flowers sent to his wife on behalf of the Neighbourhood Services Committee.

NS/029/2022: DECLARATIONS OF "CONFLICTS OF INTEREST"

No declarations of conflicts of interest were made.

NS/030/2022: ACTION SHEET OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 23 FEBRUARY 2022

Read: Action Sheet of the Neighbourhood Services Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 23 February 2022. *(Circulated)*.

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor Magennis, it was agreed the Action Sheet of the Neighbourhood Services Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 23 February 2022 be noted and actions removed as marked.

FACILITIES MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE

NS/031/2022: GROUNDS MAINTENANCE – SIX MONTH REVIEW AND SIX MONTH PROGRAMME

Read: Report dated 23 March 2022 from Mr K Scullion, Assistant Director of Facilities Management and Maintenance re: grounds maintenance review of 2021 and proposed works during 2022. *(Circulated)*.

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor Murphy, it was agreed to approve the proposed actions within the report (Sections 2.1 to 2.3 and Appendix 1).

AGREED: At the request of Councillor Ruane it was also agreed officials investigate the history of the removal and continued spraying of hogweed by the legacy Council at Carnmeen Park/Rossmara Park/Mourne Drive Warrenpoint and report back to the Committee on how this recurring problem would be dealt with going forward.

NOTED: Councillor Ruane said the Council should have a strategy in place, in conjunction with all other relevant agencies, to deal with areas across the District where hogweed was an issue.

WASTE MANAGEMENT

NS/032/2022: ELECTED MEMBER DISTRICT CLEANSING WORKSHOP

Read: Report dated 23 March 2022 from Ms S Murphy, Assistant Director: Waste Management (Acting) re: report on Elected Member District Cleansing Workshop held on 28 February 2022. *(Circulated)*.

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor Magennis, it was agreed to approve the contents of this report.

NS/033/2022: 2022 SUMMER SEASON PREPARATIONS

Read: Report dated 23 March 2022 from Ms S Murphy Acting Assistant Director Waste Management regarding 2022 Summer Season preparations. *(Circulated)*.

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Casey, seconded by Councillor Ruane, it was agreed to approve the proposed 2022 summer season preparation plans outlined in 2.4 and 2.5 of the report.

NOTED: Councillor Casey said he wished to put on record his appreciation to the Council's Cleansing staff, particularly those who had carried out such sterling work in cleaning up Newry before, during and after the St. Patrick's Day celebrations.

NS/034/2022: 2022/2023 PUBLIC HOLIDAY ARRANGEMENTS FOR REFUSE COLLECTION AND HOUSEHOLD RECYCLING CENTRES

Read: Report dated 23 March 2022 from Ms S Murphy Acting Assistant Director Waste Management regarding 2022/2023 public holiday arrangements for refuse collection and household recycling centres. *(Circulated)*.

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Magennis, seconded by Councillor Murphy, it was agreed to approve:-

- **Alternative Refuse Collection Services for the period 1 April 2022 – 31 March 2023 as per Appendix 1**
- **Opening arrangements for Household Recycling Centres for the period 1 April 2022 – 31 March 2023 as per Appendix 1**
- **Notification to Householders to be provided in local press and through Council online communications, in advance of each Public Holiday.**

NS/035/2022: EARLY CLOSURE OF WARRENPOINT HOUSEHOLD RECYCLING CENTRE – 26 MARCH 2022

Read: Report dated 23 March 2022 from Ms S Murphy Acting Assistant Director Waste Management regarding a request for the early closure of Warrenpoint HRC on Saturday 26 March 2022 to

facilitate a road closure arising from a live broadcast of Warrenpoint Town FC's game against Linfield FC by Sky Sports Television. *(Circulated)*.

AGREED: **On the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor Murphy, it was agreed to approve:-**

- **Early closing of the Warrenpoint HRC from 11.00am on Saturday 26 March 2022 to facilitate a live broadcast by Sky Sports Television**
- **Due to the late receipt of this request, Members are also asked to note that the implementation of this recommendation will be before full Council consideration on 4 April 2022.**

NOTED: Councillor Ruane said it was essential that signage advising of the closure should be displayed at the HRC from Thursday 24 March 2022 and also a message put out through the Council's social media platform.

EXEMPT INFORMATION ITEMS

ITEMS RESTRICTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH PART 1 OF SCHEDULE 6 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT (NI) 2014

Items 09, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14 are deemed to be exempt under 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) and the public may, by resolution, be excluded during this item of business.

On the proposal of Councillor Magennis, seconded by Councillor Murphy, it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on these items.

NS/036/2022: ARC21 JOINT COMMITTEE MEMBERS' MONTHLY BULLETIN – 24 FEBRUARY 2022

Read: Arc21 Joint Committee Members' Monthly Bulletin held on 24 February 2022. *(Circulated)*.

NS/037/2022: MINUTES OF ARC 21 'IN COMMITTEE' JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING – 27 JANUARY 2022

Read: Minutes of Arc 21 'In Committee' Joint Committee Meeting held on 27 January 2022. *(Circulated)*.

**NS/038/2022: NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES DIRECTORATE
PROCUREMENT ACTION PLAN - QUARTERLY UPDATE**

Read: Report dated 23 March 2022 from Mr J McBride, Director: Neighbourhood Services (Acting) regarding Neighbourhood Services Directorate Procurement Action Plan quarterly update. *(Circulated)*.

**NS/039/2022: BUSINESS CASE FOR REPLACEMENT OF MINI EXCAVATOR
AND DUMPER**

Read: Report dated 23 March 2022 from Mr K Scullion, regarding business case for replacement of mini excavator and dumper. *(Circulated)*.

(Councillor Magennis left the meeting)

**NS/040/2022: DRAFT BUSINESS CASE FOR THE PROCUREMENT OF
CHRISTMAS ILLUMINATIONS AND CHRISTMAS TREES**

Read: Report dated 23 March 2022 from Mr K Scullion, regarding draft business case for the procurement of Christmas Illuminations and Christmas trees. *(Circulated)*.

**NS/041/2022: REQUEST FOR SALE OF BURIAL PLOTS IN COUNCIL
CEMETERIES**

Read: Report dated 23 March 2022 from Mr K Scullion, regarding requests for the sale of burial plots in Council cemeteries. *(Circulated)*.

Councillor Ruane proposed and Councillor Casey seconded, to come out of closed session.

(Councillor Andrews left the meeting)

When the Committee was out of closed session the Chairperson reported the following had been agreed:-

NS/036/2022 - Arc21 Joint Committee Members' Monthly Bulletin held on 24 February 2022

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Murphy, seconded by Councillor Magennis, it agreed to note this bulletin.

NS/037/2022 - Arc21 Special Joint Committee Meeting in Committee Minutes held on 27 January 2022

AGREED: **On the proposal of Councillor Magennis, seconded by Councillor Murphy, it agreed to note these Minutes**

NS/038/2022 - Neighbourhood Services Directorate Procurement Action Plan – Quarterly Update

AGREED: **On the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor Murphy, it agreed to approve the progress update report and note that services would continue “out of contract” until new contracts were awarded and finalised.**

NS/039/2022 – Business case for replacement of a mini excavator and dumper

AGREED: **On the proposal of Councillor McKee, seconded by Councillor Magennis, it agreed to note the content of this report and associated Business Case and accept the conclusion of the Business Case to proceed to tender to procure a replacement mini excavator and dumper**

NS/040/2022 – Draft Business Case for the procurement of Christmas Illuminations and Christmas trees

AGREED: **On the proposal of Councillor Murphy, seconded by Councillor Ruane, it agreed to note the content of this report and associated draft Business Case.**

NS/041/2022 – Request for sale of burial rights to plots in Council cemeteries

AGREED: **On the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor Murphy, it agreed to recommend that these requests be referred through to the Council’s legal services section for review and advice on the options available to the Council. A report to be brought back to the Neighbourhood Services Committee for consideration.**

It was also agreed to recommend that in the interim period the identified plots which the requests related to should be retained pending a final decision.

FOR NOTING

**NS/042/2022: ARC21 JC MINUTES
24 FEBRUARY 2022**

Read: Arc21 JC Meeting Minutes held on 24 February 2022 *(Circulated)*.

**AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Murphy, seconded by
Councillor Casey, it was agreed to mark this
correspondence noted.**

NS/043/2022: HISTORIC ACTIONS TRACKING SHEET

Read: Historic Actions Tracking Sheet *(Circulated)*.

**AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Murphy, seconded by
Councillor Casey, it was agreed the Historic Actions
Tracking Sheet of the Neighbourhood Services Committee
Meetings be noted and actions removed as marked.**

There being no further business the meeting ended at 6.45 pm.

For adoption at the Council Meeting to be held on Monday 4 April 2022.

**Signed: Councillor K Owen
Chairperson of Neighbourhood Services Committee**

**Signed: Mr J McBride
Director of Neighbourhood Services (Acting)**