

NEWRY MOURNE AND DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of Strategy Policy & Resources Committee Meeting held on Thursday 16 June 2016 at 5.00pm in the Mourne Room, Downshire Civic Centre, Downpatrick.

In the Chair: Councillor P Brown

In Attendance: Councillor T Andrews Councillor N Bailie
Councillor S Burgess Councillor M Carr
Councillor W Clarke Councillor S Doran
Councillor C Enright Councillor M Murnin
Councillor B Quinn Councillor M Ruane
Councillor G Sharvin Councillor W Walker

Officials in Attendance: Mr L Hannaway, Chief Executive
Ms D Carville, Director of Corporate Services
Mr C O'Rourke, Director, Regulatory and Technical Services
Ms C Miskelly, Assistant Director, Human Resources
Ms R Mackin, Assistant Director, Corporate Planning and Policy
Mrs H McKee, Assistant Director, Community Planning
Mr A McKay, Planning Manager
Mr E McManus, Capital Projects
Mr C Moffett, Equality Officer
Mr J McBride, Change Manager
Ms S Burns, Programmes Manager
Mrs A Robb, Assistant Director Corporate Services, (Administration)
Mrs U Mhic An Tsaoir
Mr G Ringland, IT Manager
Mrs C McKenna, Assistant Director, Administration
Mrs E McParland, Democratic Services Manager
Mrs C Taylor, Democratic Services Officer

SPR/132/2016:- APOLOGIES AND CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

An apology was received from Mr E Curtis, Director of Strategic Planning and Performance.

SPR/133/2016:- DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Andrews declared an interest in SPR/138/2016 – Submission of Sustainable Atlantic Shorelines Project to the Atlantic Area Programme, being a Director of East Border Region.

The Chief Executive, Mr Hannaway, declared an interest in item SPR159 /2016 – Chief Executive Appraisal.

Councillors W Clarke, Murnin and Ruane declared interests in item SPR154/2016 – Report on Issue Relating to Location of Big Screen, Hill Street, Newry, as they were members of the Planning Committee.

SPR/134/2016:- ACTION SHEET OF THE STRATEGY, POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 12 MAY 2016

Read: Action Sheet of the Strategy, Policy and Resources (SPR) Committee Meeting held on 12 May 2016 (circulated).

SPR/111/2016 – Request to Purchase Land at Lough Inch Cemetery, Ballynahinch

In response to Councillor Andrews' request for an update on the above matter, Mrs Carville advised Ms Robb, Assistant Director Corporate Services, (Administration) would provide an update on this matter later in the meeting.

SPR/117/2016 – Acquisition and Use of the Steel Structure in the Market Square, Ballynahinch

In response to Councillor Andrews' request for an update, Mrs Carville advised that this item was being actively worked on and any further updates would be brought back to Committee.

Agreed: The Action Sheet of the Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee held on 12 May 2016, was agreed.

SPR/135/2016 AGREE COMMITTEE START TIMES FOR THE INCOMING YEAR

It was proposed by Councillor Brown, that the Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee for the incoming year of 2016/17 would start at 6pm. No seconder came forward.

It was proposed by Councillor Bailie, seconded by Councillor W Clarke, that the Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee for the incoming year of 2016/17 would start at 3pm and 6pm intermittently.

Councillor Andrews proposed an amendment to Councillor Bailie's proposal, that the Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee for the incoming year of 2016/17 would start at 3pm and 5pm intermittently.

Councillor Bailie accepted Councillor Andrews' amendment.

Councillor Ruane expressed concerns over the earlier start times as Councillor Ó'Muirí had previously raised concerns about his ability to attend meetings with an earlier start time.

Councillor Bailie explained that the reason for the earlier start times was because most Councillors were involved in community organisations and when Councillors were in late committee meetings it affected carrying out community work.

Councillor Bailie's proposal was put to a vote, the results of which were as follows:

FOR:	10
AGAINST:	0
ABSTENTIONS:	1

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Bailie, seconded by Councillor W Clarke, that the Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee meetings for the incoming 2016/17 year would start at 3pm and 5pm intermittently, with the August meeting starting at 3pm.

COMMUNITY PLANNING AND WELL-BEING

SPR136/2016 DRAFT PROGRAMME FOR GOVERNMENT

Read: Report from Ms H McKee, Assistant Director, Community Planning, dated 16 June 2016, regarding the Programme for Government (copy circulated).

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Burgess, that Members be invited to participate in a workshop to discuss the Councils response on 28 June

2016 and the response then be considered by Council on 4 July 2016.

CORRESPONDENCE

**SPR/137/2016 DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND PERSONNEL (DFP) LETTER
RE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

Read: Correspondence from DFP dated 16 May 2016 regarding the Public Service Commission (copy circulated).

Noted: **The correspondence from DFP dated 16 May 2016 regarding the Public Service Commission, was noted.**

FOR CONSIDERATION AND/OR DECISION

**SPR/138/2016 SUBMISSION OF 'SUSTAINABLE ATLANTIC SHORELINES'
PROJECT TO THE ATLANTIC AREA PROGRAMME**

Read: Report from Mr L Hannaway, Chief Executive, dated 16 May 2016 regarding the submission of 'Sustainable Atlantic Shorelines' Project to the Atlantic Area Programme (copy circulated).

Councillor Andrews declared an interest in this item of business, being a Director of East Border Region.

Councillors discussed this item at length, with concerns being expressed over resources to staff the programme.

Councillor W Clarke said the number of issues were increasingly regarding the marine environment and suggested the pilot of the provision of groins to keep sand from shifting on Newcastle beach would be included in the programme.

Agreed: **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor W Clarke, seconded by Councillor Enright, that the submission of the 'Sustainable Atlantic Shorelines' Project to the Atlantic Area Programme, be supported.**

**SPR/139/2016 LEASE OF GROUND AT COLLEGE SQUARE EAST,
BESSBROOK**

Read: Report from Mrs A Robb, Assistant Director of Corporate Services (Administration), dated 16 May 2016 regarding the lease of ground at College Square East, Bessbrook (copy circulated).

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Doran, seconded by Councillor Murnin, that Council seek to renew the lease of ground at College Square East, Bessbrook, for a further 12 year period.

CORPORATE SERVICES

SPR/140/2016 COUNCILLORS ACCREDITED TRAINING APPLICATION

Read: Report from Ms C Miskelly, dated 16 June 2016, regarding the Elected Member Application to undertake Accredited Training (copy circulated).

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor Burgess, that approval be given for an Elected Member to under a Postgraduate Diploma at Queens University.

SPR/141/2016 ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE CORPORATE PLAN

Read: Report from Mrs R Mackin, Assistant Director, Corporate Planning and Policy and Mr J McBride, Change Manager, dated 16 June 2016 regarding the Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Corporate Plan First Year Review (copy circulated).

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Burgess, seconded by Councillor Andrews, that the recommendations outlined in section 3.1 of the report (circulated previously) in terms of the Corporate Plan 2015-2019, be approved, as follows:

1. Update Councillor Information to reflect new Councillors.
2. Rewrite the Strategic Objectives in the present tense.
3. Ensure linkage and due reference in a sensitive manner is given to Strategic Objectives 1 and 4.
4. Ensure due reference is paid to Strategic Objectives 4 and 5.
5. Under Strategic Aim 2, Council ensure that quality, sustainable jobs, rather than zero hours, seasonal jobs would be created.
6. The definition under Strategic Objective 5 include rebuilding sustainable communities.

7. The definition under Strategic Objective 7 include the word enable.
8. Additional action under Strategic Objective 1, to read – *Develop the potential of the cultural heritage experience for all.*
9. Additional action under Strategic Objective 8, to read – *Lead by example in employment policy and practice.*
10. Additional action under Strategic Objective 8, to read – *The Corporate Plan should make direct reference to the corporate compliance requirements of the Section 75 statutory duties, and that Council will carry out its functions having due regard to the need to promote equality of opportunity and regard to the desirability of promoting good relations.*
11. Clarification provided for citizens on the linkages between the Corporate Plan and the Community Plan.
12. Service issues raised communicated through relevant departments for action.

SPR/142/2016

PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR 2016/17

Read:

Report from Mr J McBride, Change Manager, dated 16 June 2016, regarding the Performance Improvement Plan 2016/17 (copy circulated).

Councillor Enright expressed concerns, saying the issues contained within the Performance Improvement Plan were not what should be addressed.

In response, Mr McBride advised that Council was required to undertake the Performance Improvement Plan as a legal requirement.

Agreed:

It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Burgess, seconded by Councillor Andrews, that the following be approved:

- **A final version of the Performance Improvement Plan (2016-17) as detailed in the officer's report dated 16 June 2016.**
- **Authority to publish the Performance Improvement Plan before 30 June 2016.**

SPR/143/2016 **REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE EFFICIENCY WORKING GROUP HELD ON 6 JUNE 2016**

Read: Report of the Efficiency Working Group held on 6 June (copy circulated).

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor W Clarke, that the report of the Efficiency Working Group held on 6 June 2016, be approved, including the following efficiency initiatives for 2016/17:

- **Advertising and Communications**
- **Agency Workers**
- **Budget Centralisation**
- **Hospitality and Catering**
- **Insurance**
- **Casual Overtime**
- **Voluntary Recruitment Controls**
- **Travel Expenses**

COMMUNICATION

SPR/144/2016 **IRISH LANGUAGE AUDIT REPORT**

Read: Report from Mrs R Mackin, Assistant Director, Corporate Planning and Policy dated 16 June 2016, regarding the Irish Language Community Audit (copy circulated).

Councillors Walker and Burgess stated their opposition to the Irish Language Audit, saying the money could be better spent on cleaning streets and marketing tourism.

In response to Councillor Walker's questions regarding costs, Mrs Mackin advised that the Irish Language Strategy had not yet been developed and therefore the costs were not yet known, but they would be brought to Committee as part of the Strategy.

Councillor Enright expressed concerns regarding communication, saying it was not possible for Gaelic speakers to speak at Council. Councillor Enright also advised there were legal irregularities within this area that had not been properly reflected in the report. He said that Gaelic speaking people in the area should be able to communicate with members of staff and if this was not possible, they should be able to communicate over the internet/website. He said the Legal Officer should look into these legal irregularities.

Mr Hannaway advised there were no legal irregularities in the actions proposed.

The Chairperson asked for a vote on the officer's recommendation, the results of which were as follows:

FOR: 10
AGAINST: 2
ABSTENTIONS: 0

The vote was declared CARRIED.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Doran, seconded by Councillor W Clarke, that recommendations 1 – 16, as detailed in the report (circulated previously), be accepted (Appendix 1 attached).

SPR/145/2016 **OPTIONS FOR THE PROVISION OF AN IRISH LANGUAGE WEBSITE**

Read: Report from Mrs R Mackin, Assistant Director, Corporate Planning and Policy dated 16 June 2016, regarding the Irish Language Community Audit (copy circulated).

Councillors Walker and Burgess recorded their opposition to the proposals within the report, Councillor Burgess said rate-payers money could be better spent elsewhere. Councillor Walker said that whilst he was not opposed to the Irish language, from a unionist point of view, it was being forced upon him and the community.

Councillor Walker added that as soon as bilingual signs were put up, they were defaced, which was wrong.

Councillor Brown recorded his disgust regarding the defacing of signage, saying it was unacceptable.

Mrs Mackin advised that Option B referred to in her report involved a Google translation which translated numerous languages. Option A was the recommended option as it would give the best translation.

Councillor Andrews said there should be facilities for both languages on Council's website. He said Option B was used by

other local authorities and was his option of choice. He said the District was home to people from eastern Europe and the website should also cater for them and translate into any language and he said that the costs in relation to translation of other languages be taken on board.

Councillor Sharvin said he was in favour of having a website that had the facility of totally Irish language, but added that there were other cost effective options and asked if officers had considered other options. He asked whether the 2 websites could be interlinked, meaning the Irish webpages would be built within the code and a new platform would not be needed. He also queried the costs of £50,000 to build the website.

Mr Ringland advised that one information management system would control the 2 instances of the website and would also produce statistical data for the number of hits. He added that the main costs would be in the manual translation.

Councillor Carr said he had been at the Website Working Group where this matter had been discussed at length and, to comply with Council's Corporate Plan and bilingual policy, he would propose the recommendation to approve Option A. This was seconded by Councillor Bailie.

A discussion took place regarding from what date data would start to be translated into Irish.

Councillor Carr proposed and Councillor Bailie seconded approval of Option A.

The Chairperson called for a vote, the results of which were as follows:

FOR:	10
AGAINST:	3

The vote was declared CARRIED.

Agreed:

It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Carr, seconded by Councillor Bailie, that Option A – to build a fully functional, navigational, reduced content Irish Language Website, which would operate in conjunction with the English website, be approved.

Agreed: It was further agreed that a decision on the date on which data would start to be translated from, would be taken at a later stage.

SPR/146/2016 **UPDATE ON DECADE OF CENTENARIES 2016 CIVIC INITIATIVES**

Read: Report from Mr C Moffett, Equality Officer dated 16 June 2016, regarding the update on the Decade of Centenaries 2016 Civic Initiatives (copy circulated).

In response to concerns expressed by Councillor Andrews regarding the venue (Newcastle Centre), Mr Moffett advised that discussion had taken place regarding this at the Decade of Centenaries Working Group.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor Andrews, that agreement be given to the following to acknowledge/recognise the Centenaries of the Easter Rising and Battle of the Somme:

- Commemorative service to recognise the Battle of the Somme in Newcastle Centre.
- Commemorative artwork to recognise Patrick Rankin – public art commission to be £30,000.
- Agreement in principle to an overall budget of up to £40,000 towards the initiatives.

SPR/147/2016 **REPORT ON REVISED TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR COUNCILLORS' EQUALITY AND GOOD RELATIONS REFERENCE GROUP**

Read: Report from Mr C Moffett, Equality Officer dated 16 June 2016, regarding the Revised Terms of Reference for Councillors' Equality and Good Relations Reference Group which would ensure that no single political party would be entitled to hold more than two membership places in any year, with the two largest political parties being entitled to hold two membership positions at all times (copy circulated).

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor W Clarke, seconded by Councillor Walker, that the revised Terms of Reference for the Councillor's Equality and Good Relations Reference Group, be approved.

SPR/148/2016

**REPORT ON REQUEST TO EXTEND SHOPMOBILITY SCHEME
IN NEWCASTLE**

Read:

Report from Mr C Moffett, Equality Officer dated 16 June 2016, regarding the request to extend the Shopmobility Scheme in Newcastle at the end of March 2017 (copy circulated).

Councillor W Clarke gave his support to the request to extend the Shopmobility Scheme in Newcastle, saying this was a significant boost to disability access and to tourism and was about being inclusive.

Councillor Bailie requested an update on her previous request regarding whether the scheme could be extended beyond Newcastle – to Hill Street in Newry and to Downpatrick.

Mr Moffett advised that Council had previously agreed to extend the Shopmobility scheme to Kilkeel and Warrenpoint, details of which would be brought back to Council.

Councillor W Clarke said a strategic way forward on this initiative was required so that communities could come together, promote the scheme, locate scooters and members of the community could take bookings and he added, all avenues of funding should be explored.

Agreed:

It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Bailie, seconded by Councillor Walker that the costs of extending the Shopmobility scheme to extend it to Hill Street in Newry and Downpatrick, be investigated.

Agreed:

It was further agreed on the proposal of Councillor W Clarke, seconded by Councillor Andrews, that the contract with Shopmobility be extended to end of March 2017.

SPR/149/2016

**EUROPEAN RURAL NETWORK FOR JOB MOBILITY –
ERN4MOB PROJECT**

Read:

Report from Eddy Curtis, Director of Strategic Planning & Performance, dated 16 June 2016, regarding the European Rural Network for Job Mobility – ERN4mob Project (copy circulated).

Agreed:

It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor Murnin, that the same Council

representatives attend future project meetings (as per project plan) to ensure consistency in project delivery.

GRANT AIDED PROGRAMMES

SPR/150/2016 PEACE IV

Read: Report from Sonya Burns, Programmes Manager, dated 16 June 2016, regarding Peace IV (copy circulated).

Ms Burns advised that the Social Partner positions (1 per DEA) were closing on 22 June 2016 and asked that Members encourage applications from members of the public who had a specific interest in good relations, peace and reconciliation projects.

Agreed: **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor Walker, that:**

- **The Elected Member representation on the Peace IV Partnership reflect the Councils Equality and Good Relations reference group.**
- **Two applications be submitted to SEUPB capital schemes for the first deadline, Derryleckagh (with a cross border element) and the second for Camlough and Ballynahinch (subject to group approval).**

SPR/151/2016 SISTER CITIES/TWINNING

Read: Report from Sonya Burns, Programmes Manager, dated 16 June 2016, regarding Sister Cities/Twinning (copy circulated).

Councillor Bailie expressed concerns that the Maidens of Mourne group had applied unsuccessfully for funding through the voluntary contributions scheme, and now were seeking funding through Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee. She added that she had been lobbied recently by an Irish language group for funding for their summer scheme, and said if the funding for the Maidens of Mourne was approved, she would ask for referral of the matter of the Irish language group to Active and Healthy Communities for their funding to be topped up. She queried whether other groups would be afforded the opportunity to come to present their case to Committee and said it was only fair preference was given to groups with an intake of children from deprived areas within the Neighbourhood Renewal areas.

Councillor Enright seconded Councillor Bailie's proposal.

It was proposed by Councillor Bailie, seconded by Councillor Enright, that the matter of the Irish language group receiving funding be referred to the Active and Healthy Communities Committee for further consideration.

Councillor Carr said whilst he accepted Councillor Bailie's points, there was funding in the budget for the proposed contribution and this was an opportunity for Council to be seen as a sponsor and also to further the relationship and promotion of continuing a very successful Sister Cities programme. He said £600, rather than £1,000 was needed and the funding would be used to sponsor a maiden.

Councillor Quinn gave his support to Councillor Carr's proposal, saying the event promoted the town of Warrenpoint and businesses thrived from it.

Councillor Sharvin queried whether the application to Committee from the Maidens of Mourne had been unsuccessful through the voluntary contributions programme, saying if it was the same application, he would not be giving his support to it.

Ms Burns advised that she did not have the detail of the application, but confirmed that there was no duplication with their financial assistance applications and the element regarding developing the relationship with Southern Pines.

It was proposed by Councillor Carr, seconded by Councillor Quinn, that an allocation of £600 be made to the Maidens of Mourne to assist with the participation of the Southern Pines maiden.

The Chairperson called for a vote on Councillor Carr's proposal, the results of which were as follows:

FOR:	9
AGAINST:	0
ABSTENTIONS:	2

The vote was declared CARRIED.

Agreed:

It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Carr, seconded by Councillor Quinn, that an allocation of £600 be made to the

Maidens of Mourne to assist with the participation of the Southern Pines maiden.

A discussion ensued, with the following points being made:

- There would be many other groups in similar situations which had not received funding and would now lobby for funding.
- It was asked if Council had a legal obligation to fund Irish Language groups. Officers clarified that equality and legal impacts were considered when making a decision and there was no legal imperative to fund Irish language groups.
- Every applicant that was unsuccessful in receiving funding had been advised of the reason why, and had received a copy of the review process. It was up to each group whether they took up the process or not, but Council made this available to them along with capacity building workshops.
- The Irish Language group had written to Councillor Bailie and other councillors 3 weeks ago. They were still awaiting feedback and had now missed the appeals process.

Agreed: It was further agreed on the proposal of Councillor Bailie, seconded by Councillor Enright, that the issue of the Irish Language Summer Scheme's funding being cut be referred to the Active and Healthy Communities Committee for further consideration.

SPR/152/2016 **SOCIAL INVESTMENT FUND**

Read: Report from Sonya Burns, Programmes Manager, dated 16 June 2016, regarding the Social Investment Fund (copy circulated).

Ms Burns explained the background to the Letter of Offer from the Executive for community operated facilities, which was currently with the Council. She explained that only the Downpatrick Football Club met the requirements of the Community Landfill Fund and it was therefore proposed to apply for the full amount of funding for the Downpatrick pitch and offset the shortfall from the Council funds for the Ballyhornan projects. She explained there was £105,000 of match funding for Ballyhornan and £150,000 for the Downpatrick site from the Legacy Down District Council reserves.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Bailie, seconded by Councillor Sharvin, that the application to the Landfill Community Fund to solely be for Downpatrick Football Club

and additional allocation required for Ballyhornan to be offset from Downpatrick Football Club allocation.

In response to Members questions, Ms Burns answered as follows:

- The distance from Drumnakelly landfill site to Ballyhornan was 10.6 miles.
- The distance was measured from Drumnakelly landfill to Ballyhornan.

Councillor Enright requested clarification of the distance between Drumnakelly Landfill Site and Ballyhornan and also the distance to Inch Abbey.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor W Clarke, seconded by Councillor Doran, that officers check with the Ulster Wildlife Trust which towns and villages do qualify for funding.

Before the meeting went into closed session, Mr Hannaway declared an interest in SPR159/2016 – Chief Executive Appraisal.

SPR/111/2016 – Request to Purchase Land at Lough Inch Cemetery, Ballynahinch

In response to an earlier request from Councillor Andrews, Mrs Robb advised that the Council decision on the above matter had been to refuse the request to purchase and the applicant would be advised of this decision.

ITEMS RESTRICTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH PART 1 OF SCHEDULE 6 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT (NI) 2015

SPR/153/2016 DISABLED ANGLING FACILITY AT WHITEWATER, KILKEEL

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Burgess, seconded by Councillor Murnin, it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on this 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).

Read: Report from Mrs A Robb, Assistant Director, Corporate Services, dated 16 June 2016, regarding Disabled Angling Facility at Whitewater, Kilkeel (copy circulated).

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Burgess, seconded by Councillor Andrews, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.

Agreed: When the Committee came out of closed session, the Chairperson reported that it had been agreed on the proposal of Councillor Doran, seconded by Councillor Quinn, to approve the recommendation that the landowner be advised the Council was only interested in renting the land currently maintained which provided disabled access for fishing (0.49 acres).

SPR/154/2016 REPORT ON ISSUE RELATING TO LOCATION OF BIG SCREEN, HILL STREET, NEWRY

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Burgess, seconded by Councillor Murnin, it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on this matter which related to exempt information by virtue of Paragraph 5 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 - Information in relation to which a claim for legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings, and the public may, by resolution, be excluded during this item of business.

Councillors W Clarke, Murnin and Ruane declared an interest in this item of business, being on the Planning Committee and left the meeting for this item.

Read: Report from Mr L Hannaway, Chief Executive, dated 16 June 2016, regarding the Big Screen, Hill Street, Newry (copy circulated).

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Burgess, seconded by Councillor Andrews, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.

Agreed: When the Committee came out of closed session, the Chairperson reported that it had been agreed on the proposal of Councillor Doran, seconded by Councillor Andrews, to approve the recommendation in the report to keep the screen in situ pending the outcome of the application for planning permission and that, in the interim, officers to seek an

alternative site over the next 6 months, with a fully costed options paper on relocation to be presented to the Council for agreement in early Autumn.

Councillors W Clarke, Murnin and Ruane re-joined the meeting.

SPR/155/2016 COUNCIL UNIT AT CAMLOUGH OLD PRIMARY SCHOOL

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Burgess, seconded by Councillor Murnin, it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on this 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 of 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.

Read: Report from Mrs A Robb, Assistant Director, Corporate Services, dated 16 June 2016, regarding the Council owned unit on the grounds of the former Camlough Primary School (copy circulated).

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Burgess, seconded by Councillor Andrews, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.

Agreed: When the Committee came out of closed session, the Chairperson reported that it had been agreed on the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor Sharvin, to approve the recommendation to offer the Council Unit at Camlough Old Primary School to Camlough AA at a nominal cost and advise them to agree their own arrangement with Trustees of Bessbrook Parish.

SPR/156/2016 ORGANISATIONAL DESIGN (SUSTAINABILITY)

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Burgess, seconded by Councillor Murnin, it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on this matter which related to exempt information by virtue of Paragraph 4 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 - Information relating to any consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations, in connection with any labour relations matter arising between

the Council or a Government Department and employees of, or office holders under, the Council and the public may, by resolution, be excluded during this item of business.

Read: Report from Mr L Hannaway, Chief Executive, dated 16 June 2016, regarding Organisational Design (Sustainability) (copy circulated)

Agreed: **On the proposal of Councillor Burgess, seconded by Councillor Andrews, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.**

Agreed: **When the Committee came out of closed session, the Chairperson reported that it had been agreed on the proposal of Councillor W Clarke, seconded by Councillor Enright, to approve the recommendation in the report at 3.1 and regarding the Organisational Design (Sustainability):**

- 1. Establish a Sustainable Development and Climate Change Standing Forum.**
- 2. Adopt Option 2 as presented in the report to Party Representatives.**

SPR/157/2016 **PROVISION OF AGENCY WORKERS**

Agreed: **On the proposal of Councillor Burgess, seconded by Councillor Murnin, it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on this 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 of 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.**

Read: Report from Ms C Miskelly, Assistant Director Corporate Services and Mr J McBride, Change Manager, dated 16 June 2016, regarding the Provision of Agency Workers (copy circulated)

Agreed: **On the proposal of Councillor Burgess, seconded by Councillor Andrews, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.**

Agreed: **When the Committee came out of closed session, the Chairperson reported that it had been agreed on the proposal of Councillor Sharvin, seconded by Councillor W Clarke, to**

approve the recommendation in the report to progress the Council's decision to tender for the provision of Agency Workers by way of a Central Buying Organisation, tailored for Local Government and that officers enter into detailed discussions and arrangements with the identified provider.

SPR/158/2016

RPA SEVERANCE

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Burgess, seconded by Councillor Murnin, it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on this matter which related to exempt information by virtue of Paragraph 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 - Information in relation to any individual and the public may, by resolution, be excluded during this item of business.

Read: Report from Ms C Miskelly, Assistant Director Corporate Services (copy circulated at meeting)

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Burgess, seconded by Councillor Andrews, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.

Agreed: When the Committee came out of closed session, the Chairperson reported that it had been agreed on the proposal of Councillor Murnin, seconded by Councillor Burgess, to approve the recommendation in the report regarding the RPA Severance.

SPR/159/2016

CHIEF EXECUTIVE APPRAISAL

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Burgess, seconded by Councillor Murnin, it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on this matter which related to exempt information by virtue of Paragraph 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 - Information in relation to any individual and the public may, by resolution, be excluded during this item of business.

Read: Report from Ms C Miskelly, Assistant Director Corporate Services, dated 16 June 2016, regarding the Chief Executive Appraisal (copy circulated)

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Burgess, seconded by Councillor Andrews, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.

Agreed: When the Committee came out of closed session, the Chairperson reported that it had been agreed on the proposal of Councillor Enright, seconded by Councillor Murnin, to note the 2015-2016 Performance Appraisal of the Chief Executive had been completed and the objectives for 2016-2017 had been set.

The meeting concluded at 7.34pm.

For consideration at the Council Meeting to be held on 6 June 2016.

Signed: **Councillor Patrick Brown**
Chairperson

Signed: **Dorinnia Carville**
Director of Corporate Services

Recommendations on Irish Language Audit

Recommendation One: The existing commitment to the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages as evidenced by the Bilingualism Policy should continue and be developed.

Recommendation Two: As part of its brief, Foras na Gaeilge currently runs an Irish Language Officers Scheme 2013-2016 designed to promote and develop the Irish Language in the public sector. If this scheme is extended it may present the Council with an opportunity to add to its staffing complement within the Irish Language Unit without the need for an additional fiscal commitment from the Council. In addition given the Council's location, consideration should be given to developing a European funding application to explore best practice and shared learning in relation to communities whose first language is a minority language.

Recommendation Three: Consideration should be given to the Council's Irish Language Unit working collaboratively with relevant stakeholders to use the information provided by the audit to target limited resources based on the community background and language capacity of the different wards. This approach will provide a framework in which the effectiveness of interventions can be more easily measured.

Recommendation Four: Consideration should be given to the Council's Irish Language Unit working collaboratively with relevant stakeholders to enable local communities to develop their capacity to explore their Early Years language provision.

Recommendation Five: Consideration should be given to the Council's Irish Language Unit working collaboratively with relevant stakeholders to explore how best the Council can continue to develop its existing support for the provision of Council wide competitions and schools programmes designed to explore the significance of culture, language and social history in developing civic pride and a sense of place in the Council area.

Recommendation Six: Consideration should be given to the Council's Irish Language Unit working collaboratively with relevant stakeholders to encourage attendance at the annual Irish Language Careers convention held by Forbairt Feirste for post-primary pupils studying Irish to deepen their understanding of the range and breadth of job and career opportunities available through the medium of Irish.

Recommendation Seven: Consideration should be given to the Council ensuring that the Irish Language Unit has access to the necessary technical support to provide a framework for dissemination of information around the logistics (e.g. time, location, level, and cost) of classes available in the area.

Recommendation Eight: Consideration should be given to the Council's Irish Language Unit liaising with the Education Authority to ensure that they are aware of all the existing and emerging youth services in the area. This will ensure effective signposting to support the development and growth of quality Irish youth service provision in the Council area.

Recommendation Nine: Consideration should be given to the Council's Irish Language Unit providing a framework for the development of Irish Language community led networks which would bring together groups interested in developing and sustaining a community development approach to supporting existing and emerging Irish Language communities in the Council area. The additional benefits of this approach ensure that:

- It would be peer led therefore ensuring development of the sector's capacity
- It is a cost effective mechanism for other departments within the Council to engage with a sizable constituent group
- It facilitates dissemination of relevant information with a particular emphasis on training and funding opportunities
- It would develop connectivity across the Council area.

It should be noted that any community led network should be cognizant of the Council's District Electoral Area Fora.

Recommendation Ten: Consideration should be given to the Council's Irish Language Unit working with the GAA's county Irish Language committees to best support their volunteer network of language and cultural officers to maximise the impact of their language support within the Council area.

Recommendation Eleven: Consideration should be given to the Council's Irish Language Unit working with the relevant stakeholders to develop a strategic approach to maximising the potential availability of external funding to collectives able to demonstrate a collaborative multi-agency partnerships approach to the promotion and delivery of cultural and heritage events.

Recommendation Twelve: Consideration should be given to developing the role of the Council as an enabler to support, connect and encourage existing groups. Voluntary and statutory organisations should be facilitated to work collaboratively to maximise the impact of their collective human, fiscal and intellectual resources.

Recommendation Thirteen: A three year Irish Language Strategy is developed and appropriately resourced to ensure the implementation of the Bilingualism Policy and the development of the Irish Language community throughout the District.

Recommendation Fourteen: Consideration should be given to the Irish Language Unit working collaboratively with the Human Resources team in the Council to develop an Irish Language developmental opportunity for staff who wish to contribute to the Council's Bilingualism Policy commitments.

Recommendation Fifteen: The existing Irish Language development posts within the Council should be resourced accordingly to enable the provision of a quality developmental support service to both internal and external stakeholders.

Recommendation Sixteen: Consideration should be given to the commissioning of a full Social Return on Investment analysis in respect of language development in the area to capture the economic benefit of the Council's investment in the promotion of the Irish Language.