

NEWRY MOURNE AND DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

**Minutes of Strategy Policy & Resources Committee Meeting held on
Thursday 15 April 2021 at 6.00pm via Microsoft Teams (Hybrid)**

In the Chair: Councillor G Sharvin

In Attendance:

Councillor P Brown	Councillor P Byrne
Councillor H Gallagher	Councillor O Hanlon
Councillor R Howell	Councillor A Lewis
Councillor H McKee	Councillor O Magennis
Councillor D Murphy	Councillor B Ó Muirí
Councillor M Savage	Councillor W Walker

Also in attendance: Councillor T Andrews

Officials in Attendance: Mrs D Carville, Director of Corporate Services
Mr M Lipsett, Director of Active & Healthy Communities
Mr C Mallon, Director of Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism
Mrs C Miskelly, Assistant Director Corporates Services, HR & Safeguarding
Mr E Devlin, Assistant Director Health & Wellbeing (Administration)
Mrs A Robb, Assistant Director Corporate Services
Mr C Quinn, Assistant Director of Estates & Capital Projects
Mr F O'Connor, Legal Advisor
Mr A Patterson, Assistant Director Tourism Culture & Events
Mr P Preen, HR Policy & Projects Manager
Miss S Taggart, Democratic Services Manager
Ms L O'Hare, Democratic Services Officer

SPR/53/2021: APOLOGIES AND CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

Apologies were received from Councillor Doran.

The Chairperson congratulated Mr C Mallon on his appointment as Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism Director on a permanent basis.

SPR/54/2021: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

SPR/55/2021: ACTION SHEET ARISING FROM STRATEGY, POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETINGS HELD ON THURSDAY 11 MARCH 2021

Read: Action Sheet of the Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee Meeting held on Thursday 11 March 2021. **(Copy circulated)**

SPR/041/2021 – Minutes of Newry City Regeneration Programme Board Meeting - 02.03.2021

In response to a query from Councillor Savage, Mrs Carville confirmed that the matter had been referred to the Programme Board and it would be on the agenda of their next meeting. She advised she would revert to Councillor Savage with confirmation of the next meeting date.

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Gallagher, seconded by Councillor Hanlon, it was agreed that the action sheet from the Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee Meetings held on 11 March 2021, be approved.

CORPORATE SERVICES

SPR/55/2021: WOMEN'S WORKING GROUP

Read: Report dated 15 April 2021 from Mrs D Carville, Director of Corporate Services regarding Women's Working Group (**Copy circulated**)

Mrs Carville advised members that the working group would be inclusive and requested that parties put forward nominations to Democratic Services within the next 2 weeks to allow the group to be operational and have their first meeting in May.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Magennis, seconded by Councillor Hanlon, to approve the Terms of Reference which set out the working group's scope, purpose and proposed membership.

FOR NOTING

SPR/56/2021: NMDDC CONSULTATION RESPONSE TO DRAFT OUTCOMES FRAMEWORK FOR THE PROGRAMME FOR GOVERNMENT (PfG)

Read: Report dated 15 April 2021 from Mrs R Mackin, Assistant Director Corporate Planning and Policy, regarding NMDDC Consultation response to draft Outcomes Framework for the Programme for Government (PfG) (**Copy circulated**)

Agreed: It was agreed to note the contents of the report.

SPR/57/2021 STATUTORY REPORTING – SECTION 75 POLICY SCREENING REPORT – QUARTERLY REPORT FOR PERIOD JANUARY – MARCH 2021

Read: Report dated 15 April 2021 from Mrs R Mackin, Assistant Director Corporate Planning and Policy, regarding Statutory reporting - Section 75 Policy Screening Report – Quarterly Report for period January – March 2021 (**Copy circulated**)

Agreed: It was agreed to note the contents of the report.

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

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Howell, seconded by Councillor Magennis, it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on the next matter which related to exempt information by virtue of para. 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government (Northern Ireland) 2014 – Information relating to the financial or business affairs of a particular person (including the Council holding that information) and the public may, by resolution, be excluded during this item of business.

SPR/58/2021: NILGA ANNUAL PAYMENT

Read: Report dated 15 April 2021 from Mrs M Ward, Chief Executive, regarding NILGA Annual Payment. **(Copy circulated)**

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

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Gallagher, that Elected Members agree to pay the annual subscription fee for 2021/22 at a cost of £51,259.

SPR/59/2021: DRUMEE ROAD CASTLEWELLAN – THE LANE

Read: Report dated 15 April 2021 from Mrs A Robb, Assistant Director Corporate Services (Administration) regarding, Drumee Road, Castlewellan – The Lane’ **(Copy circulated)**

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

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Gallagher, that Elected Members agree to Option 3 and refute responsibility for maintenance of whole or part of the Lane going forward and write to residents to confirm this.

Council to correlate a list of roads in a similar situation and write to the Department of Infrastructure to highlight the roads identified for adoption.

SPR/60/2021: PROPOSED LEASE OF LANDS AT NEWRY STREET CAR PARK KILKEEL TO NIEN

Read: Report dated 15 April 2021 from Mr F O’Connor, Acting Head of Legal Administration, regarding proposed lease of lands at Newry Street Car Park, Kilkeel to NIEN **(Copy circulated)**

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

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Howell, seconded by Councillor Sharvin, that Elected Members agree to grant a Lease to NI Electricity Networks of the lands outlined in red on the Map at Appendix 1 for the term of 99 years subject to a one-off premium of £1000.00.

SPR/61/2021: LAND OWNERSHIP AT DELAMONT COUNTRY PARK

Read: Report dated 15 April 2021 from Mr F O'Connor Acting Head of Legal Administration, regarding land ownership at Delamont Country Park **(Copy circulated)**

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

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Lewis, that Elected Members agreed the following:

- i) That Members approve officer's continued engagement with EA and seek a fresh agreement, in place of the 1988 Declaration of Intent, which will reflect recent discussions and clearly define the legal issues and respective legal obligations regarding the proposed land transfer;
- ii) That Council pursues a formal commitment by EA to allow use of the proposed slipway by Council;
- iii) That Members authorise the carrying-out of works at the slipway by EA subject to achieving the desired outcomes at i) and ii) above.

SPR/62/2021: SEASONAL TOURISM ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

Read: Report dated 15 April 2021 from Mr A Patterson, Assistant Director Tourism, Culture and Events, regarding Seasonal Tourism Enforcement Officers. **(Copy circulated)**

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

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Sharvin, seconded by Councillor Gallagher, that Elected Members approve the recommendation for the recruitment of seven Seasonal Tourism Enforcement Officers, with an extra three in reserve for deployment if required, to ensure safe and responsible use of key tourism sites across the summer, at the cost outlined in the officer's report.

SPR/63/2021: WARRENPOINT BATHS

Read: Report dated 15 April 2021 from Mr A Patterson, Assistant Director Tourism Culture and Events, regarding Warrenpoint Baths **(Copy circulated)**

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

Agreed: **On the proposal of Councillor Murphy, seconded by Councillor Howell, that Elected Members approve that no further use of Warrenpoint Baths is permitted at this time, including as a storage space, for reasons outlined in the officer's report.**

At this point in the meeting it was agreed to take item 14 of the agenda

Mrs Carville asked all officers not involved in Trade Union negotiations to leave the meeting at this point and reminded members of the confidentiality of the papers contained within the report. Councillor Byrne requested an email was issued to all Councillors who had been in the meeting advising of the confidentiality point, in case they had left the call and not received Mrs Carville's advices.

Councillor Brown left the meeting at 19.13pm

SPR/64/2021: TERMS AND CONDITIONS UPDATE

Read: Report dated 15 April 2021 from Mr M Lipsett, Director of Active and Healthy Communities, regarding Terms and Conditions Update **(Copy circulated)**

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

Agreed: **On the proposal of Councillor McKee, seconded by Councillor Murphy, that Elected Members approve the new Night Rate of all employees whose work pattern includes the hours between 11pm and 5am.**

SPR/65/2021: TERMS AND CONDITIONS UPDATE – TRADE UNION FACILITY RELEASE

Read: Report dated 15 April 2021 from Mr M Lipsett, Director of Active & Healthy Communities, regarding Terms & Condition Update – Trade Union Facility Release. **(Copy circulated)**

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

Agreed: **On the proposal of Councillor Murphy, seconded by Councillor Ó Muirí, that Elected Members consider the release of 2 Trade Union Representatives on full time basis**

until 31 December 2021, to support the agreed workplan with indicative completion date of 31 December 2021. Members agree this release including a request from NIPSA for 2 days a week to support NIPSA General Council work; this release to be reviewed on 31 December 2021.

There being no further business, the Meeting concluded at 19.29pm.

Signed: Councillor Gareth Sharvin
Chairperson

Signed: Dorinnia Carville
Director of Corporate Services