

NEWRY MOURNE AND DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of Strategy Policy & Resources Committee Meeting held on Thursday 12 September 2019 at 6.00pm in the Mourne Room, Downshire Civic Centre, Downpatrick

In the Chair: Councillor M Savage

In Attendance:

Councillor P Brown	Councillor R Burgess
Councillor P Byrne	Councillor H Gallagher
Councillor O Hanlon	Councillor R Howell
Councillor A Lewis	Councillor C Mason
Councillor R Mulgrew	Councillor B Ó Muirí
Councillor J Tinnelly	Councillor W Walker

Officials in Attendance: Mr L Hannaway, Chief Executive
Mr M Lipsett, Director of Active & Healthy Communities
Mrs M Ward, Director of Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism
Mr C Mallon, Assistant Director of Estates and Project Management
Mrs C Miskelly, Assistant Director Corporate Services HR & Safeguarding
Ms E Cosgrove, Head of Compliance
Mr F O'Connor, Head of Legal Administration (Acting)
Mr J McBride,
Mrs A Robb, Assistant Director Corporate Services (Administration)
Mr J McBride, Assistant Director, Community Planning and Performance
Mrs Louise Fitzsimons, Human Resources

SPR/108/2019: APOLOGIES AND CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

An apology was received from Councillor Sharvin and Mrs D Carville, Director of Corporate Services.

SPR/109/2019: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor O'Muirí declared an interest in Item 17, Mr Hannaway and Mrs Ward both declared an interest in Item 21.

SPR/110/2019: ACTION SHEET OF THE STRATEGY, POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 14 AUGUST 2019

Read: Action Sheet of the Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee Meeting held on 14 August 2019. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: **It was agreed that the Action Sheet of 14 August 2019, be noted, and actions removed as marked.**

SPR/111/2019 **ASSESSMENT OF PERFORMANCE 2018-19**

Read: Report dated 12 September 2019 from J McBride, Assistant Director, Community Planning and Performance regarding Assessment of Performance. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: **On the proposal of Councillor Byrne, seconded by Councillor O’Muirí, it was agreed that the Committee consider and agree the following:**

- **The Assessment of Performance 2018-19**
- **The summary document ‘Our Performance Looking Back, Going Forward’**
- **The publication of the Assessment of Performance by 30 September 2019, before full Council ratification, in order to meet the statutory deadline.**

CORPORATE SERVICES

SPR/112/2019 **DRAFT RECORDS MANAGEMENT POLICY AND PROCEDURE**

Read: Report dated 12 September 2019 from Mrs A Robb, Assistant Director Corporate Services (Administration), regarding Draft Records Management Policy and Procedure. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: **On the proposal of Councillor Hanlon, seconded by Councillor O’Muirí, it was agreed that Councillors consider and approve the draft Records Management Policy and Procedure.**

SPR/113/2019: **LICENCE AGREEMENT WITH MOURNE STIMULUS – ADDITIONAL FACILITIES AT COUNCIL ROAD KILKEEL**

Read: Report dated 12 September 2019 from Mrs A Robb, Assistant Director Corporate Services (Administration), regarding Licence Agreement with Mourne Stimulus – Additional Facilities at Council Road, Kilkeel. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: **On the proposal of Councillor Tinnelly, seconded by Councillor Walker, it was agreed that Council approve a Licence Agreement to regulate Mourne Stimulus’s use of additional land and facilities at Council Road, Kilkeel as identified in the report.**

SPR/114/2019: **NOTICE OF MOTION - INITIATIVES RE: RECORDING COMMITTEE AND COUNCIL MEETINGS**

Read: Report dated 12 September 2019 from Mrs A Robb, Assistant Director Corporate Services (Administration), regarding Notice of Motion - Initiatives Re: Recording Committee and Council Meetings. **(Copy Circulated)**

Councillor Brown said he did not agree with some of the recommendations as the person who originally brought the motion and proposed the following amendments:

- Council does go ahead with the most cost effective video recording option and if further costing is required to bring this back to Committee for consideration.
- Full costings to be done for Audio recordings of other meetings.
- Propose that 3 Motions per Councillor would be reasonable to allow for smaller parties if they have multiple issues needing raised.

Councillor Tinnelly seconded the proposal.

A discussion took place with Councillor Mason, Byrne, Walker all speaking in support of the officers recommendations, the Chairman put Councillor Brown's amendment to a recorded vote and voting was as follows (copy of vote appended to these minutes)

For: 2
Against: 9
Abstentions: 1

The proposal was declared 'lost'

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Byrne, it was agreed that the Committee consider and agree the following recommendations:

- Video recording and uploading or live streaming of all Council meetings – no change due to resource implications.
- Audio of Planning Committee – No change, still under review.
- Audio recordings of other meetings – no change.
- Motions to full Council – members consider amending current Standing Orders to provide that the Chairman and Chief Executive will consider Notices of Motion prior to the issuing of the Council Agenda and when the Agenda is issued it will identify to what Committee a Notice of Motion has been referred.
- Notices of Motion – members consider amending current Standing Orders to provide that only one Notice of Motion will be accepted per Councillor each month.

SPR/115/2019

**ACQUISITION OF STRIP OF LANDS AT IRISH STREET,
DOWNPATRICK**

Read: Report dated 12 September 2019 from Mr F O'Connor, (Acting) Head of Legal Administration, regarding Acquisition of Strip of lands at Irish Street, Downpatrick **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Brown, seconded by Councillor Hanlon, the following recommendation was agreed:

- That Elected Members approve the purchase of the strip of lands outlined in blue on the map attached for the sum of £100,000 plus costs in order to facilitate the future joint development of the site by Council and DFC.

SPR/116/2019: ALLEGED PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY BETWEEN CORCREECHY ROAD AND TRAYMOUNT BURIAL GROUND

Read: Report dated 12 September 2019 from Mr F O'Connor, Head of Legal Administration (acting), regarding alleged Public Right of Way between Corcreechy Road and Traymount Burial Ground, Newry **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: **On the proposal of Councillor Tinnelly, seconded by Councillor Mulgrew, it was agreed that Council assert the path between Corcreechy Road and Traymount Burial Ground as a public right of way with carriageway rights.**

SPR/117/2019 PURCHASE OF STRIP OF LAND AT LISMORE PARK, CROSSMAGLEN

Read: Report dated 12 September 2019 from Mr F O'Connor, Head of Legal Administration (acting), regarding Purchase of strip of land at Lismore Park, Crossmaglen **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: **On the proposal of Councillor Byrne, seconded by Councillor O'Muirí, it was agreed that Elected Members agree to purchase the freehold in the lands outlined in red on the map attached hereto for the sum of £1000.00 in order to rectify the boundaries. The new area benefits Council also from the point of view of creating the right to vehicular entrance, whereas the previous right was over the footpath only.**

FOR NOTING

SPR/118/2019: PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT ASSESSMENT 2019 – AUDIT WORK PROGRAMME

Read: Report dated 12 September 2019 from Mr J McBride, Assistant Director Community Planning and Performance, regarding Performance Improvement Assessment 2019 – Audit Work Programme **(Copy circulated)**

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

SPR/119/2019 BREXIT RISK REGISTER

Read: Report dated 12 September 2019 from Mr C Mallon, Assistant Director of

Estates and Project Management, regarding Brexit Planning (**Copy circulated**)

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

SPR/120/2019 **CORRESPONDENCE DATED 11/09/19 – RATE SUPPORT GRANT (RSG) OVERPAYMENT**

Read: Correspondence dated 11 September 2019 from Ms T Meharg, Permanent Secretary, Department for Communities, regarding write-off of the overpayment of £2,664,675 paid by Council in respect of Rates Support Grant (RSG) for the period 1 April 2015 to 31 March 2018. (**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 Mulgrew, seconded by Councillor Gallagher, it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on the next matters 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/121/2019 **ALBERT BASIN TASK AND FINISH ACTION SHEET DATED 13 AUGUST 2019**

Read: Albert Basin Task and Finish Action Sheet dated 13 August 2019. (**Copy circulated**)

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

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Ó Muirí, seconded by Councillor Byrne to approve the Albert Basin Task and Finish Action Sheet dated 13 August 2019, with the exception of the Working Group Attendees and Contamination Report Actions.

SPR/122/2019 **ALBERT BASIN TASK AND FINISH GROUP – REVISED TERMS OF REFERENCE**

Read: Report dated 12 September 2019 from Mr M Lipsett, Director of Active and Healthy Communities, regarding Albert Basin Task and Finish Group – Revised Terms of Reference. (**Copy circulated**)

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

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Byrne, seconded by Councillor Mulgrew, to amend the officer's report:

- To remove the section entitled 'key stakeholders' with regard to the Maritime Association and Inland Waterways.
- The Maritime Association and Inland Waterways will be consultees on the stakeholder forum.
- The stakeholder forum exists as a body of consultees any member of which can be invited by through the SP&R Committee as and when required to attend the Albert Basin Task and Finish Working Group.
- Any consultee on the stakeholder forum can apply through the SP&R Committee to attend the Working Group if they believe they can contribute to an item on the agenda.

SPR/123/2019: **LEASE OF LANDS AT FORMER LAND-FILL SITE AT NEWRY ROAD, NEWTOWNHAMILTON**

Read: Report dated 12 September 2019 from Mr F O'Connor, Acting Head of Legal Administration, regarding Lease of Lands at Former Land-Fill Site at Newry Road, Newtownhamilton (**Copy circulated**)

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

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Ó Muirí, seconded by Councillor Byrne, to defer any decision on the report for a month, subject to further consultation, both with the community and Committee Members.

Having previously declared an interest, Councillor O'Muirí left the meeting at this stage -

SPR/124/2019 **OPTION TO PURCHASE LANDS AT DUNDALK ROAD, NEWTOWNHAMILTON**

Read: Report dated 12 September 2019 from Mr F O'Connor, Acting Head of Legal Administration, regarding Option to purchase lands at Dundalk Road, Newtownhamilton (**Copy circulated**)

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

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Mulgrew, seconded by Councillor Byrne, to allow the transfer of the lands at Dundalk Road, Newtownhamilton to St Michael's GAC.

Councillor O’Muirí returned to the meeting at this point

SPR/125/2019 DISPOSAL OF SURPLUS ASSETS

Read: Report dated 12 September 2019 from Mr C Mallon, Assistant Director of Estates and Project Management, regarding Disposal of Surplus Assets **(Copy circulated)**

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

Agreed: **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Mulgrew, seconded by Councillor Byrne:**

- **To approve the open market sale on the following assets – NM167 - Derryleckagh Playing Fields, NM123-Kilkeel Town Hall and DDC068-Meadowlands Recreation Area.**
- **To approve the Estates and Property Assets team to consider the following sites for development opportunity and submit planning applications for – Ballyvange Downpatrick, NM090-lands at rear of Jonesborough Market and DDC124-Grove Gardens Recreations Area, Killyleagh.**
- **To accept the expression of interest from the NIHE for Social Housing at DDC025-17 The Square, Ballynahinch Steel Frame.**
- **To accept the expression of interest from SRC for NM219-Newry Sports Centre and write to the Department to move forward on the matter.**
- **To accept the expression of interest from the Development Trust NI on behalf of South Armagh Lace Collective for NM062-Malachy Conlon Park, Culloville.**
- **That officers report back on the legal advice received on NM069-Bog Road Amenity Area, Forkhill.**

SPR/126/2019 CORRY SQUARE CARPARK

Read: Report dated 12 September 2019 from Mr C Mallon, Assistant Director of Estates and Project Management, regarding Corry Square Carpark **(Copy circulated)**

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

Agreed: **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Byrne, seconded by Councillor Mulgrew the following recommendation was agreed:**

- **Agree to the sale of the site to Matt D’Arcy Limited and include a covenant /condition within the title that**

would ensure the area marked in blue on the map in Appendix B is retained as a carpark..

SPR/127/2019 REVIEW OF AONB STRUCTURE

Read: Report dated 12 September 2019 from Mrs M Ward, Director of Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism, regarding Review of AONB Structure **(Copy circulated)**

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

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Mulgrew, seconded by Councillor Byrne, to note the contents and approve the recommendations as set out in para.3.0 of the officer's report.

SPR/128/2019 D1 PROCESS – RAYMOND MCCREESH PARK

Read: Report dated 12 September 2019 from Mr L Hannaway, Chief Executive, regarding D1 Process – Raymond McCreesh Park **(Copy circulated)**

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

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

Having previously declared an interest, Mr Hannaway and Mrs Ward left the meeting at this stage -

SPR/129/2019 APPOINTMENT OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Read: Report dated 12 September 2019 from Mrs C Miskelly, Assistant Director Corporate Services (HR & Safeguarding), regarding Appointment of Chief Executive **(Copy circulated)**

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

Agreed: It was agreed to note the contents of the officer's report and the following recommendation was agreed:

- **As the performance appraisal will need to be completed prior to Mr Hannaway's employment ending, it is also recommended through that process, that the opportunity is taken to agree performance objectives with the incoming Chief Executive.**

There being no further business, the Meeting concluded at 8.40pm

Signed: **Councillor Michael Savage**
Chairperson

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

NEWRY, MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL
RECORDED VOTE

DATE: 12/09/19 VENUE: Downpatrick MEETING: **Strategy, Policy and Resources**

SUBJECT OF VOTE: Item 7 - Notice of Motion – Initiatives Re: Recording Committee and Council Meetings

COUNCILLOR	FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
P Brown	<u>√</u>			
R Burgess				<u>√</u>
P Byrne		<u>√</u>		
S Doran				<u>√</u>
H Gallagher		<u>√</u>		
O Hanlon		<u>√</u>		
R Howell		<u>√</u>		
A Lewis			<u>√</u>	
C Mason		<u>√</u>		
R Mulgrew		<u>√</u>		
B O’Muirí		<u>√</u>		
M Savage		<u>√</u>		
G Sharvin				<u>√</u>
J Tinnelly	<u>√</u>			
W Walker		<u>√</u>		
TOTALS	2	9	1	3