

At the Council Meeting held on Monday 3 March 2020 the Minutes of the Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee Meeting were discussed and it was agreed with regards to Page 4 of the Minutes SPR/20/2020 - CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED FROM MINISTER OF FINANCE RE: REVAL 2020 AND TRANSITIONAL RELIEF – that the following amendment be added:-

- Councillor Sharvin on a point of accuracy advised his expression of disappointment in the Minister of Finance's response Re: SPR/20/2020 had not been noted and asked that this be amended.

NEWRY MOURNE AND DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of Strategy Policy & Resources Committee Meeting held on Thursday 13 February 2020 at 6.25pm in the Mourne Room, Downshire Civic Centre, Downpatrick

In the Chair: Councillor M Savage

In Attendance:

Councillor R Burgess	Councillor P Byrne
Councillor S Doran	Councillor O Hanlon
Councillor R Howell	Councillor A Lewis
Councillor D Murphy	Councillor A McMurray
Councillor B Ó Muirí	Councillor M Savage
Councillor G Sharvin	Councillor J Tinnelly
Councillor W Walker	

Also in attendance:

Councillor T Andrews	Councillor W Clarke
Councillor D Curran	Councillor D McAteer
Councillor G Stokes	Councillor D Taylor

Officials in Attendance: Mrs M Ward, Chief Executive
Mrs D Carville, Director of Corporate Services
Mr M Lipsett, Director of Active and Healthy Communities
Mr R Moore, Director of Neighbourhood Services
Mr C Quinn, Assistant Director of Estates & Capital Projects
Mr C Moffett, Head of Corporate Policy
Mrs K McNiff, Safety, Health and Emergency Planning Manager
Mr Fearghal O'Connor, Head of Legal Administration
Mrs L Fitzsimons, HR Manager
Mrs E McGrath, HR Business Partner
Miss S Taggart, Democratic Services Manager (Acting)
Ms L O'Hare, Democratic Services Officer

SPR/9/2020: APOLOGIES AND CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

Apologies were received from Councillors Gallagher and Mulgrew.

The Chairperson welcomed Councillor Murphy to the Committee and to Council and offered congratulations to Councillor Mulgrew on becoming a grandmother again.

SPR/10/2020: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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- Councillor Sharvin on a point of accuracy advised his expression of disappointment in the Minister of Finance's response Re: SPR/20/2020 had not been noted and asked that this be amended.

Mrs Carville declared an interest on behalf of all the senior officers in relation to Item 3.

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

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Sharvin, seconded by Councillor Doran, 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.

Having previously declared an interest, Mrs Carville, Mr Lipsett, Mr Moore, Mr Quinn, Mr Moffett, Mrs McNiff and Mr O'Connor left the meeting at this stage. Ms L O'Hare also left – 6.28pm

SPR/11/2020: PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE (PRESENTATION)

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

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Ó Muirí, seconded by Councillor Byrne, it was agreed to approve the recommendations contained within the report, namely a new Management Structure for the organisation and a Voluntary Redundancy Scheme.

Mrs Carville, Mr Lipsett, Mr Moore, Mr Quinn, Mr Moffett, Mrs McNiff and Mr O'Connor and Ms O'Hare re-entered the Chamber at this stage.

Ms Taggart joined the meeting at this stage – 7.00pm.

Mrs Ward, Mrs Fitzsimmons and Mrs McGrath also left the meeting at this stage – 7.00pm

SPR/12/2020: ACTION SHEET OF THE STRATEGY, POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 19 JANUARY 2020

Read: Action Sheet of the Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee Meeting held on 19 January 2020. **(Copy circulated)**

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- Councillor Sharvin on a point of accuracy advised his expression of disappointment in the Minister of Finance's response Re: SPR/20/2020 had not been noted and asked that this be amended.

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Ó Muirí, seconded by Councillor Howell, it was agreed that the Action Sheet of 19 January 2020, be noted, and actions removed as marked.

COMMUNITY PLANNING AND PERFORMANCE

SPR/13/2020 **PERSONAL SAFETY POLICY FOR EMPLOYEES EXPOSED TO WORKPLACE VIOLENCE AND ABUSE**

Read: Report dated 13 February 2020 from Mrs K McNiff, Safety, Health and Emergency Planning (SHEP) Manager, regarding Personal Safety Policy for Employees exposed to Workplace Violence and Abuse (**Copy circulated**)

Councillor Andrews asked if paper could be extended to include Councillors' welfare. Mrs Carville confirmed she would speak to the National Association of Councillors about the matter.

Members spoke in support of the policy with Councillor Hanlon highlighting the importance of building resilience within Members to deal with challenging issues.

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Byrne, seconded by Councillor Howell, it was agreed to approve the personal safety policy for employees exposed to workplace violence and abuse from the public.

CORPORATE PLANNING AND POLICY

SPR/14/2020 **IRISH LANGUAGE MATTERS**

Read: Report dated 13 February 2020 from Mr C Moffett, Head of Corporate Policy, regarding Irish Language Matters (**Copy circulated**)

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Ó Muirí, seconded by Councillor Byrne, the following was agreed;

- To implement an Irish Language Bursary Scheme for the period 2020-2021, with an overall budget of £50,000. This to be apportioned to two district six-monthly periods: April – September (£45,000) and October – March (£5,000).
- Updated Irish Language Strategy Cross Party Working Group Terms of Reference (February 2020), as detailed in the officer's report.

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SPR/15/2020 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE END OF THE SECOND WORLD WAR

Read: Report dated 13 February 2020 from Mr C Moffett, Head of Corporate Policy, regarding the 75th Anniversary of the end of the Second World War **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Sharvin, it was agreed to acknowledge the 75th anniversary of the end of the Second World War through the presentation of Silver Poppies to surviving World War II veterans within our district in May 2020.

DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

SPR/16/2020 SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS MAY 2020-MAY 2021

Read: Report dated 13 February 2020 from Mrs M Ward, Chief Executive, regarding Schedule of meetings May 2020-May2021 **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Byrne, seconded by Councillor Ó Muirí, it was agreed to approve the schedule of meetings including amendments on the following dates:

- Mock Annual Meeting – Friday 22nd May 2020 at 11am
- Annual Meeting – Tuesday 26th May 2020 at 6pm
- Neighbourhood Services – Tuesday 15th December 2020 at 6pm
- Council – Wednesday 7th April 2021 at 6pm
- Planning Committee – Thursday 8th April 2021 at 10am

FOR NOTING

SPR/17/2020 DRAFT MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY PLANNING STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP BOARD MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 28 JANUARY 2020

Read: Draft Minutes of the Community Planning Strategic Partnership Board meeting held on Tuesday 28 January 2020 **(Copy circulated)**

Noted: It was agreed to note the Draft Minutes of the Community Planning Strategic Partnership Board meeting held on Tuesday 28 January 2020.

At the Council Meeting held on Monday 3 March 2020 the Minutes of the Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee Meeting were discussed and it was agreed with regards to Page 4 of the Minutes SPR/20/2020 - CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED FROM MINISTER OF FINANCE RE: REVAL 2020 AND TRANSITIONAL RELIEF – that the following amendment be added:-

- Councillor Sharvin on a point of accuracy advised his expression of disappointment in the Minister of Finance's response Re: SPR/20/2020 had not been noted and asked that this be amended.

SPR/18/2020 **APPLICATION TO THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION NI – CIVIC INNOVATION PROGRAMME FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A CITIZENS' PANEL**

Read: Report dated 13 February 2020 from Mr J McBride, Assistant Director Community Planning & Performance, regarding Application to the Community Foundation NI – Civic Innovation Programme for the establishment of a Citizens' Panel **(Copy circulated)**

Noted: **It was agreed to note the application to the Community Foundation NI – Civic Innovation Programme for the establishment of a Citizens' Panel.**

SPR/19/2020 **CONSULTATION ON GAMBLING**

Read: Correspondence received from Department for Communities regarding Consultation paper on 'Regulation of Gambling in Northern Ireland' **(Copy circulated)**

Noted: **It was agreed to note the Consultation paper on 'Regulation of Gambling in Northern Ireland, with parties to make responses as considered appropriate.**

SPR/20/2020 **CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED FROM MINISTER OF FINANCE RE: REVAL 2020 AND TRANSITIONAL RELIEF**

Read: Correspondence received from Minister of Finance Re: Reval 2020 and Transitional Relief **(Copy circulated)**

Noted: **It was agreed to note the correspondence received from Minister of Finance re: Reval 2020 and Transitional Relief**

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

Agreed: **On the proposal of Councillor Lewis, seconded by Councillor Ó Muirí, 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.**

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SPR/21/2020 CASH HANDLING POLICY

Read: Report dated 13 February 2020 from Mr K Montgomery, Assistant Director of Finance, regarding Cash Handling Policy (**Copy circulated**)

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

Agreed: **On the proposal of Councillor Hanlon, seconded by Councillor Byrne, it was agreed to approve the Cash Handling Policy.**

SPR/22/2020 CCTV REVIEW

Read: Report dated 13 February 2020 from Mr J McBride, Assistant Director of Community Planning and Performance, regarding CCTV Review (**Copy circulated**)

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

Agreed: **On the proposal of Councillor Sharvin, seconded by Councillor Hanlon, it was agreed to approve the recommendations arising from the external review of public space and facilities CCTV provision and to proceed to begin consultation with key stakeholders and to prepare an overarching strategy for the provision of CCTV and commence preparation of a business case for replacement CCTV.**

SPR/23/2020 LEGAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN NMDDC AND BLUEBELL LANE

Read: Report dated 13 February 2020 from Mr J McGilly, Assistant Director of Enterprise, Employment and Regeneration, regarding Legal Agreement between NMDDC and Bluebell Lane (**Copy circulated**)

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

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Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Ó Muirí, seconded by Councillor Byrne, it was agreed to establish a Legal Agreement with a Private Landowner (Bluebell Lane) which sets out agreement for the placement of an iron age roundhouse at Bluebell Lane, and includes a specific term committing the landowner for responsibility of the ongoing maintenance of the unit until March 2030, mitigating any future risk or liability against Council.

SPR/24/2020 **DEED OF CHARGE SPA GOLF CLUB**

Read: Report dated 13 February 2020 from L Moore, Head of Legal Administration, regarding Deed of Charge Spa Golf Club (**Copy circulated**)

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

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Sharvin, seconded by Councillor Howell, it was agreed to approve:

- The club's request to release the expired Charge on the property.
- The club's request to release the live charge early, subject to an inclusion in any future sale that the premises are to be used primarily for golfing purposes.

Councillor Ó Muirí left the meeting at this stage – 7.50pm

SPR/25/2020 **CONSENT FOR WORKS AT QUOILE RIVER BY NIEA**

Read: Report dated 13 February 2020 from L Moore, Head of Legal Administration, regarding Consent for Works at Quoile River by NIEA (**Copy circulated**)

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

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Sharvin, seconded by Councillor Hanlon, it was agreed to approve the NIEA's request to upgrade the Council owned portion of the path at Quoile Quay, subject to both parties entering into a suitable Licence for Works, with Council officers asked to cost the

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upgrade of the remainder of the path in Council ownership and revert to Committee with same.

SPR/26/2020 PROPOSED LICENCE OF OUTBUILDINGS AT COUNCIL ROAD, KILKEEL

Read: Report dated 13 February 2020 from L Moore, Head of Legal Administration, regarding Proposed Licence of outbuildings at Council Road, Kilkeel **(Copy circulated)**

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

Agreed: **On the proposal of Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Doran, it was agreed to proceed with Option 1 as outlined in Paragraph 2.0 of the officer's report, namely to accede to the Group's request and to agree to a licence agreement for 5 years at a peppercorn fee, subject to Departments consent.**

SPR/27/2020 DOWNPATRICK HOUSEHOLD RECYCLING CENTRE

Read: Report dated 13 February 2020 from Mr T McClean, Head of Service Capital Projects, regarding Downpatrick Household Recycling Centre **(Copy circulated)**

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

Agreed: **On the proposal of Councillor Sharvin, seconded by Councillor Hanlon, it was agreed to approve:**

- **Additional costs of £47,000 on Phase 1 for an attenuation tank.**
- **The final account for Phase 2 at the value of £444,991.97 (being £201,391 over contract cost).**

SPR/28/2020 MOORHILL FORMER REFUSE SITE

Read: Report dated 13 February 2020 from Mr M Lipsett, Director of Active and Healthy Communities, regarding Moorhill Former Refuse Site **(Copy circulated)**

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

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Tinnelly, seconded by Councillor McMurray, it was agreed to approve a further extension until September 2020 to allow Mountaineering Ireland to finalise a detailed business case for the site.

FOR NOTING

SPR/29/2020 MCCREESH PARK VERBAL UPDATE

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

Noted: It was agreed to note that Choice Housing have accepted nomination to develop the Patrick Street site for Social Housing, with the Northern Ireland Housing Executive supporting Category 1, older persons accommodation on the site. Council officials are now working on designing an appropriate Public Consultation which will take place once Choice Housing provide details of their planned design for this site

SPR/30/2020 MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS

Read: Report dated 13 February 2020 from Mr K Montgomery, Assistant Director of Finance, regarding Management Accounts to 31 December 2019 **(Copy circulated)**

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

Noted: It was agreed to note the Management accounts for the period ending 31 December 2019, with officers to write to Minister Dodds seeking progress on legislation for Apprenticeship Levy.

SPR/31/2020 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED FROM LOCAL GOVERNMENT STAFF COMMISSION – DISSOLUTION FUNDING AND CONTINUING OPERATIONS 2020/21

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- Councillor Sharvin on a point of accuracy advised his expression of disappointment in the Minister of Finance's response Re: SPR/20/2020 had not been noted and asked that this be amended.

Read: Correspondence dated 4 February 2020 received from Local Government Staff Commission regarding Dissolution Funding and Continuing Operations 2020/21 **(Copy circulated)**

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

Noted: **It was agreed to note the correspondence received.**

SPR/32/2020 **ACTION SHEET FROM STRATEGIC PROJECTS WORKING GROUP MEETING HELD ON 20 JANUARY 2020**

Read: Action Sheet from Strategic Projects Working Group meeting held on 20 January 2020 **(Copy circulated)**

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

Noted: **It was agreed to note the action sheet arising from the Strategic Projects Working Group meeting held on 20 January 2020.**

SPR/33/2020 **ACTION SHEET FROM EFFICIENCY WORKING GROUP MEETING HELD ON 6 FEBRUARY 2020**

Read: Action Sheet from Efficiency Working Group meeting held on 6 February **(Copy circulated)**

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

Noted: **It was agreed to note the action sheet arising from the Efficiency Working Group meeting held on 6 February 2020.**

There being no further business, the Meeting concluded at 8.30pm

Signed: **Councillor Michael Savage**

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Chairperson

Signed: Dorinnia Carville