

Report on	Application for Approval for Civil Marriages/Civil Partnerships
Date of Meeting	15 th June 2021
Reporting Officer	William Wilkinson

Is this report restricted for confidential business?	Yes	
If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	No	X

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To advise Members on an application received from Killymoon Golf Club for the Place Approval for Civil Marriages/Civil Partnerships
2.0	Background
2.1	In accordance with "The Marriage Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2003 (See Appendix 1), the Council has authority to approve a place where Civil Marriages/Civil Partnerships may be solemnised. A Place Approved if issued can be for a single event or for a three year period.
2.2	Following an application being submitted for the "Place Approval" of a venue, a Public Notice should be placed at the venue for 21 days. An objection can subsequently be submitted to the Council detailing their reasoning in relation to the application.
2.3	In addition the Council carries out non statutory consultations with the PSNI and NIFRS.
2.4	<p>In accordance with Regulation 20 of The Marriage Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2003 it states the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The authority shall not grant an approval if the application has not been made in accordance with these regulations. 2. The authority shall not grant an approval if, in its opinion- <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) The place will compromise the solemnity and dignity of civil marriage: (b) The place has a resent or continuing connection with any religious body or religious practice which would be incompatible with the use of that place for the solemnisation pf civil marriages: or (c) The place does not fulfil any other reasonable requirements which the authority considers appropriate to ensure that the facilities provided at the place are suitable. 3. The authority shall not grant an approval without- <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Having regards to the guidance issued by the Registrar General under regulation 34: and

	<p>(b) Taking account of any objections in respect of the application which have been made in accordance with regulation19.</p> <p>4. The authority shall not grant a place approval if, in its opinion, the applicant is not a fit and proper person.</p>
3.0	Main Report
3.1	An application was received on 14 th May 2021 from Killymoon Golf Club, Killymoon Road, Cookstown for the Place Approval for the main function room within their premises for Civil Marriages/Civil Partnerships.
3.2	We subsequently carried out non statutory consultations with the PSNI and NIFRS on 14 th May 2021.
3.3	The response received from the PSNI detailed issues in relation to the “Registration of Clubs (NI) Order 1996) – see Appendix 2. The correspondence raised concerns which the PSNI in relation to compliance with the above legislation.
3.4	However, it is considered that in accordance with the Marriage Regulations (Northern Ireland) Order, the comments submitted by the PSNI does constitute an objection as detailed in Regulation 20 as detailed in CI 2.4 of this report.
3.5	An inspection of the premises has been carried out by the Licensing Officer with no issues being raised. In addition, an Entertainment Licence is currently in place for the Function Room at the premises.
3.6	It should be noted that a previous application for Place Approval for Civil Marriage/Civil Partnership, was approved by the legacy Cookstown District Council with no objections having been received from the PSNI.
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: None
	Human: None
	Risk Management: None
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: None
	Rural Needs Implications: None

5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	It is recommended that the application for the “Place Approval for Civil Marriages/Civil Partnerships” at Killymoon Golf Club, Killymoon Road, Cookstown is approved with an advisory note attached highlighting the requirements of “The Registration of Clubs (NI) Order 1996”
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Appendix 1 - The Marriage Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2003
6.2	Appendix 2 – Correspondence from PSNI