

**Minutes of Meeting of Environment Committee of Mid Ulster District Council  
held on Tuesday 8 May 2018 in Council Offices, Burn Road, Cookstown**

**Members Present**

Councillor McGinley, Chair

Councillors Buchanan, Burton (7.13 pm), Cuthbertson, Gillespie, Glasgow, Kearney, McFlynn, B McGuigan, S McGuigan, McNamee, Mulligan, O'Neill, M Quinn, Totten

**Officers in Attendance**

Mr Cassells, Director of Environment and Property  
Mr Kelso, Director of Public Health and Infrastructure  
Mr Lowry, Head of Technical Services  
Mr McAdoo, Head of Environmental Services  
Mrs McClements, Head of Environmental Health  
Mr Scullion, Head of Property Services  
Mr Wilkinson, Head of Building Control  
Miss Thompson, Committee Services Officer

The meeting commenced at 7.00 pm

**E133/18 Apologies**

Councillor Reid.

**E134/18 Declarations of Interest**

The Chair reminded Members of their responsibility with regard to declarations of interest.

**E135/18 Chair's Business**

The Chair, Councillor McGinley referred to the recent use of a defibrillator at Ardboe GAA Club which helped to save the life of a match spectator. The Chair stated that this case highlights the need for defibrillators in rural areas and asked for the support of the committee in writing to Ardboe GAA Club and the two people involved in the use of the defibrillator and helping to save the life of the spectator at a recent match. The Chair asked for an update on the resuscitation working group.

The Director of Public Health and Infrastructure advised that the last meeting of the working group had been last year and that since then there had been a shift in responsibility from the Health Board to the NI Ambulance Service. Funding had also been secured for a regional co-ordinator and that this person was now in place. The Director stated that Council was linking with the regional co-ordinator to set up future meetings.

Proposed by Councillor B McGuigan  
Seconded by Councillor Gillespie and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to write to Ardboe GAA Club and the people involved in the use of the defibrillator and helping to save the life of a spectator at a recent football match.

Councillor Cuthbertson referred to previous discussions regarding maintenance at Tamnamore Roundabout. The Councillor stated that it was his belief that following those discussions a report was to come forward regarding maintenance at Tamnamore Roundabout and that this was still outstanding.

The Director of Environment and Property advised that maintenance of roundabout at Tamnamore was included within appendix to report brought before committee last month. The Director stated that this would be checked and confirmed with the Councillor.

### **Matters for Decision**

#### **E136/18 Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission Report – “Out of Sight, Out of Mind: Traveller’s Accommodation in Northern Ireland”**

The Director of Public Health and Infrastructure presented previously circulated report which provided Executive Summary to Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission report and its recommendations relevant to Council. The report also sought a nominee to represent Council at the Northern Ireland Local Government Traveller Partnership.

Councillor McNamee stated there was a Member who would be keen to represent Council on the Partnership but was not on the Environment Committee and asked if it was possible to nominate this Member.

It was advised that the nominee did not have to sit on the Environment Committee.

Councillor McNamee proposed that Councillor Bateson represent Council on the Northern Ireland Local Government Traveller Partnership.

Councillor S McGuigan seconded Councillor McNamee’s proposal.

Councillor Mulligan referred to previous occasion in which a Member was nominated to Tullyvar Joint Committee but that this was not allowed because they did not sit on the Environment Committee.

The Director of Environment and Property stated that this ruling had now changed and there were Members who sat on Tullyvar Joint Committee who were not Members of the Environment Committee.

The Chair, Councillor McGinley stated that the matter needed clarification at the Council meeting.

*Councillor Burton entered the meeting at 7.13 pm.*

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council that Councillor Bateson be nominated to represent Council on the Northern Ireland Local Traveller Partnership. Clarification to be sought on whether a non member of the Environment Committee can sit on the Partnership.

### **E137/18 Mid Ulster Bonfires – Draft Policy**

The Director of Public Health and Infrastructure presented previously circulated report which provided update on the Bonfire Management Programme and sought approval of the Draft Policy for the Management of Bonfires on Council Property and Community Celebration – Event Guidance/Application Pack.

Councillor Cuthbertson stated that a precedent had been set that no consultations are carried out over the summer months and that consultations had been held back on this basis in the past. The Councillor used consultation on works in Market Square as an example.

The Director of Public Health and Infrastructure stated that the time frame for the consultation was generous at 13 weeks which started at the beginning of June.

Councillor Cuthbertson asked how many meetings had been held with PSNI in relation to bonfires what Council officers had been present and when the most recent had been.

The Director of Public Health and Infrastructure advised regular briefings are held with PSNI which he and another Director attend.

Councillor Cuthbertson proposed that the consultation does not commence until September in line with previous consultations.

Councillor B McGuigan stated that the consultation time frame was agreed by the bonfire working group and that the process should not be stalled any longer. Councillor B McGuigan proposed that the Draft Policy for the Management of Bonfires on Council Property and Community Celebration Event Guidance / Application Pack be agreed and that that the consultation proceed as set out in the report commencing on 4 June for a 13 week period.

Councillor O'Neill seconded Councillor B McGuigan's proposal.

Councillor McNamee stated that it would be important in the interim that bonfires at Killymoon and Killymerron are watched carefully in conjunction with the Police to ensure that there is not a repeat to the problems of last year as Council are liable when the bonfire is held on their property.

Councillor Glasgow stated he would also have concerns regarding the consultation timeframe and proposed that the matter be deferred for further discussion in respective parties as had been done recently in relation to car parking.

The Chair, Councillor McGinley reminded Members that this matter had been ongoing for over two years.

Councillor Mulligan seconded Councillor Glasgow's proposal to defer the consultation until further discussion had taken place within respective parties.

Councillor McFlynn stated she had sat on the bonfire working group for a year and a half and referred to the amount of work which had gone into bringing this draft policy forward. The Councillor stated that the group had sought assurances that the consultation will be extensively advertised over the 13 week period. Councillor McFlynn also expressed disappointment as she had been contacted by the press who had information regarding the draft policy and questioned her on same.

Councillor Buchanan seconded Councillor Cuthbertson's proposal to defer the consultation process until September.

Councillor Glasgow stated he assumed all statutory bodies had bought into the draft policy and asked if it was correct that monies had been set aside for bonfire clean up.

The Chair, Councillor McGinley stated that NIEA have a statutory responsibility to remove toxic materials.

The Director of Public Health and Infrastructure stated that every statutory body has its own issues to deal with and referred to report regarding NIEA response in relation to bonfires later in the meeting. The Director advised of paper presented to P&R Committee in relation to making provisions for bonfire clean up.

Members voted on Councillor Glasgow's proposal to defer consultation until further considered by parties –

For – 2  
Against – 10

Members voted on Councillor B McGuigan's proposal to agree draft policy for the Management of Bonfires on Council Property and Community Celebration Event Guidance / Application Pack and proceed with consultation commencing on 4 June for 13 weeks to 4 September –

For – 10  
Against – 4

Members voted on Councillor Cuthbertson's proposal to defer the consultation until September in line with other Council consultations –

For – 3  
Against – 10

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to approve the Draft Policy for the Management of Bonfires on Council Property and Community Celebration – Event Guidance / Application Pack as attached in appendix to report and proceed with public consultation exercise as outlined in report, commencing on 4 June to 4 September. Existing risk management procedures to be applied to any planned events this year.

## **E138/18      Coalisland Public Realm – Progress Update**

The Director of Public Health and Infrastructure presented previously circulated report which provided update on Coalisland Public Realm Programme.

Councillor O'Neill stated that it was widely viewed that option one was best and that although there may be some traders who have voiced concern at this option it is not representative of all traders. Councillor O'Neill proposed that Council proceed with option one for the Public Realm Scheme in Coalisland.

The Director of Public Health and Infrastructure stated that at the public meeting held last week option one was favoured although there had been some traders who queried the impact on Coalisland when the scheme is complete. The Director highlighted that additional parking will be brought forward as part of the scheme.

In response to Councillor M Quinn's question the Director of Public Health and Infrastructure stated that there had been a review of valuation of the property in question and that this had been presented to the proprietor. If an accommodation is not reached, Council will want the dereliction of the property dealt with and the area landscaped and secured.

Councillor M Quinn stated that the majority of traders would be in favour of option one and referred to the amount of good work which has been done in bringing the proposals forward.

Councillor Gillespie seconded Councillor O'Neill's proposal to proceed with option one.

The Director of Public Health and Infrastructure also made Members aware of the consultation process which will be required to be undertaken by DfI Roads in respect of making Main Street, Coalisland one way traffic.

Councillor Cuthbertson stated there was a need for parking enforcement in Coalisland in order for the scheme to work and improve accessibility. The Councillor also referred to the consultation carried out by Council in relation to parking throughout the District and asked, if during that process, it had been identified that more parking was required in Coalisland. Councillor Cuthbertson also asked what effect extra car parking would have to car parking charges.

The Director of Public Health and Infrastructure stated there may be some reduction to on street car parking as a result of the scheme which is why additional car parking options are being looked into. The Director advised that DfI will bring a parking management process to Coalisland in line with other public realm schemes.

The Director of Environment and Property stated he did not recall a demand for additional car parking in Coalisland as part of the previous consultation. The Director stated that if additional car parking becomes a reality it would not be during this financial year so there was time to consider budgets. As any additional car parking will be off street it will be considered as part of the off street car parking strategy.

Councillor Cuthbertson welcomed parking enforcement taking place in Coalisland in the future.

In response to Councillor M Quinn's question the Director of Environment and Property advised that the number of disabled car parking spaces is a percentage of the total number of spaces available.

Councillor M Quinn stated that Coalisland was like most other towns and that there were some misguided people who do not park properly. The Councillor welcomed extra disabled car parking spaces being available in the future.

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council that option one be approved as the preferred option for the Public Realm Scheme planned for Coalisland Town Centre.

### **E139/18      The Roads Miscellaneous Provisions Act (NI) 2010**

The Head of Environmental Health presented previously circulated report which sought determination for a Road Closure Order to be made for two special events in June 2018.

Councillor McNamee advised that this matter had been discussed at the last Development Committee and that it had been proposed that Council write out to community groups providing advice on legislation requirements for road closures at events. Councillor McNamee proposed that the Road Closure Orders be made as set out in report.

Councillor B McGuigan asked what determines whether an event is large or small and whether a Road Closure Order is needed.

The Head of Environmental Health advised that if a road is to be closed entirely then those organising the event need to apply for a Road Closure Order. The Head of Environmental Health referred to previously circulated guidance which determines whether an event is large or small.

Councillor B McGuigan advised that he had been contacted by those organising the Draperstown event who stated that the cost of the traffic management plan is considerable and that they are unsure whether they can run the event.

The Head of Environmental Health suggested that events be organised in such a way as to prevent an entire road closure.

The Chair, Councillor McGinley suggested that Council write to the Department highlighting the difficulties this legislation is placing on community groups wishing to hold events.

Councillor McNamee stated that community groups simply do not have the money needed in respect of Road Closure Orders and that events will not be organised in the future as a result and proposed that Council write to the Department in this regard.

Councillor Glasgow stated that he would support writing to the Department as this matter had been discussed at NILGA and it is also causing concern in other Councils. Councillor Glasgow felt that Council was getting the blame for legislation introduced by central government.

Councillor Kearney referred to discussions regarding cost of Road Closures for future Belfast City Marathon which are said to be in the region of £120,000. Councillor Kearney stated that this Council did waive the administration fee for small groups which is to be welcomed.

In response to Councillor Cuthbertson's question the Head of Environmental Health advised that the cleansing deposit would be waived for the first event and depending on compliance whether it would be charged for recurring events.

In response to Councillor Burton's question the Head of Environmental Health advised that the appendix to the report detailed events which may or may not require a Road Closure Order. The Head of Environmental Health advised that it was a matter for the organiser of the event to decide if they wanted to close a road but highlighted that if a road is closed for an event without a Road Closure Order it would become a PSNI matter. If it is decided that the event does require a Road Closure Order then an application should be made to Council.

The Chair, Councillor McGinley stated that Council are in a difficult position and that there was a need for event organisers to be creative in how they run their event. The Chair suggested that community groups be given guidance from Council on how to organise their events.

Councillor B McGuigan seconded Councillor McNamee's proposals.

Councillor McNamee advised that discussion had also taken place at the Development Committee regarding training staff in relation to preparing traffic management plans however he had felt that staff should not be taken away from their everyday job and that additional staff would be required in that regard.

The Director of Public Health and Infrastructure advised that there was a limited resource for staff to get their everyday job done.

Councillor B McGuigan asked if all groups were aware of the legislation requirements in relation to road closures at an event.

Councillor McNamee advised that it had been agreed at the Development Committee that all groups on the community database should be contacted in relation to the required process for road closures at events.

The Head of Environmental Health highlighted that it takes in the region of 3 months to go through the application process.

*Councillor Mulligan left the meeting at 8.02 pm.*

- Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to -
- Approve the following Road Closure Orders in line with DfI Guidance –
    - Continental Market – Temporary prohibition of vehicular access to William Street, Cookstown from 18:30 hours on Friday 1 June 2018 until 22:00 hours on Sunday 3 June 2018.
    - Cookstown Summer Carnival – Temporary prohibition of vehicular access to Burn Road, Cookstown from 15:00 to 23:00 hours on Friday 29 June 2018.
  - Note the schedule of forthcoming events that may require a road closure.
  - Write to the Department expressing concern at the impact the Roads Miscellaneous Provisions Act (NI) 2010 is having on community groups in being able to hold events.

#### **E140/18 Public Analyst Services**

The Head of Environmental Health presented previously circulated report which sought to update the list of Public Analysts working on behalf of Public Analyst Scientific Services Ltd, the company currently appointed by Council to provide Public Analyst Services.

Proposed by Councillor McNamee  
Seconded by Councillor McFlynn and

- Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to appoint the following persons as Public Analysts to the Council under Article 27 (1) of the Food Safety (Northern Ireland) Order 1991 with immediate effect –
- Ronald Anthony Ennion BSc, MChemA, CChem, FRSC, MIFST
  - Watney Elizabeth Moran MSc, MChemA, CChem, FRSC
  - Duncan Kenelm Arthur BSc, MChemA, CChem, MRSC
  - Nigel Kenneth Payne MSc, MChemA, CChem, MRSC
  - Joanne Hubbard BSc, MChemA, CChem, MRSC
  - Kevin Wardle MSc, MChemA, CChem, MRSC
  - Lilian Emma Jane Downie MChem, MChemA, CChem, MRSC
  - Michelle Evans BSc, MChemA, MRSC

*Councillor M Quinn left the meeting at 8.04 pm.*

#### **E141/18 LPS Vacant Property Inspections**

The Head of Building Control presented previously circulated report which sought approval of a Data Sharing Protocol between Mid Ulster District Council and Land and Property Services in relation to the Joint Working Programme for the Mid Ulster Non Domestic Vacancy Inspection Programme.

*Councillor M Quinn rejoined the meeting at 8.06 pm during the above report presentation.*

In response to Councillor Gillespie's question the Head of Building Control stated that as a result of carrying out inspections Council can receive an increased rateable income.



In response to Councillor McNamee's question the Head of Building Control advised that officers will try to identify if a property is occupied. If this is not possible officers will return to LPS in order for them to carry out further investigations. The Head of Building Control advised that the majority of Councils were participating in carrying out inspections. It was highlighted that this protocol was for non domestic properties.

Councillor B McGuigan asked if there was a different process for domestic properties.

The Head of Building Control stated that once domestic properties have been identified as occupiable officers will advise LPS.

Councillor B McGuigan referred to previous discussions on what defined a property as occupiable.

The Head of Building Control advised that when a property becomes weatherproof then the process of making the property rateable will commence. It was advised that this is not causing the same problems as some years ago as people seemed to be pushing on with building work more quickly.

In response to Councillor S McGuigan's question the Head of Building Control advised that if officers find a property is occupied they will return to LPS in order for them to take the process forward. It was highlighted that Mid Ulster does not have a high number of vacant commercial properties.

Proposed by Councillor McFlynn  
Seconded by Councillor Kearney and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to agree the Data Sharing Protocol as attached as appendix to report between Mid Ulster District Council and Land and Property Services in relation to the Joint Working Programme for the Mid Ulster Non Domestic Vacancy Inspection Programme.

#### **E142/18 Street Naming and Property Numbering**

The Head of Building Control presented previously circulated report regarding the naming of new residential housing developments within Mid Ulster.

Councillor Cuthbertson stated he had raised concern at a previous meeting regarding naming of each street in this development separately, the Councillor stated that he was still of the same opinion that naming each street separately will be confusing however he was content to step back on this occasion and have the streets named individually if it was the desire of the committee.

Proposed by Councillor S McGuigan  
Seconded by Councillor O'Neill and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to name development off Ranfurly Road, Dungannon as follows –  
Road 1 - Castle Glen Avenue

Road 2 – Castle Glen Park  
Road 3 – Castle Glen Ponds  
Road 4 – Castle Glen Wood  
Road 5 – Castle Glen Manor

*Councillor O'Neill left the meeting at 8.16 pm.*

#### **E143/18      Dual Language Signage Requests**

The Head of Building Control presented previously circulated report which advised of requests for Dual Language Signage from residents on streets/roads in the District.

The Head of Building Control also highlighted the process of dealing with Dual Language Signage applications and how this process could become more streamlined in future.

Councillor Glasgow expressed some concern at only making the public aware of the outcome of a decision on Dual Language Signage via the council website.

Proposed by Councillor McNamee  
Seconded by Councillor S McGuigan and

**Resolved**      That it be recommended to Council to proceed to survey the following roads on which a request for Dual Language Signage has been received –

- |   |                                |
|---|--------------------------------|
| ▪ Greenvale Drive, Cookstown  | ▪ Hillhead Road, Castledawson  |
| ▪ Drummuck Road, Maghera  | ▪ Lisnastrane Park, Coalisland |
| ▪ Gortalowry Park, Cookstown  | ▪ Mulinderg, Draperstown       |
| ▪ Mayogall Road, Magherafelt  |                                |
| ▪ Report on streamlining the process of dealing with Dual Language Signage to be brought to future committee. |                                |

#### **E144/18      Dual Language Signage Survey**

The Head of Building Control presented previously circulated report which advised on the results of surveys undertaken on all applicable residents on the streets/roads in response to Dual Language Signage nameplate requests.

The Chair, Councillor McGinley highlighted that the replies received in relation to Scotchtown Lane, Cookstown did not meet the necessary 51% quota and therefore did not meet policy.

Councillor B McGuigan proposed to proceed with the application of Dual Language Nameplates in Irish for Ballinderry Bridge Road, Coagh and Eglish View, Cookstown and that a further request from Scotchtown Lane, Cookstown could be considered following the expiry of 12 months from the date of this Environment Committee.

Councillor McNamee seconded Councillor B McGuigan's proposal.

Councillor Cuthbertson proposed that Council does not proceed with any of the Dual Language requests. In relation to Scotchtown Lane, Cookstown Councillor

Cuthbertson stated that this request does not meet with policy and should not proceed at this time and that a further request could be made at a later date.

Councillor Buchanan seconded Councillor Cuthbertson's proposal.

Members voted on Councillor Cuthbertson's proposal –

For – 4

Against – 9

Members voted on Councillor B McGuigan's proposal -

For – 9

Against - 4

- Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to –
- Agree the application of Dual Language Nameplates in Irish for –
    - Ballinderry Bridge Road, Coagh
    - Eglish View, Cookstown
  - To consider a further request from Scotchtown Lane, Cookstown following the expiry of 12 months from the date of this meeting of the Environment Committee (08/05/18).

#### **E145/18 Rural Address Initiative**

The Head of Building Control presented previously circulated report which highlighted the importance of rural house owners prominently displaying their house numbers across Mid Ulster District Council area.

Councillor Burton stated that there were equally as many houses in urban areas which did not display a number and proposed that any promotional event should be widened to include urban areas. Councillor Burton stated that Council could work with CSWAN, COSTA and Agewell in highlighting the importance of displaying house numbers.

Councillor Kearney highlighted that Mid Ulster has the worst ambulance response time.

Councillor Cuthbertson suggested that the Council magazine which goes out to all residents may be a way of highlighting this issue.

Proposed by Councillor Burton  
Seconded by Councillor Kearney and

- Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to participate in a promotional event in partnership with 'Blue Light Services' to highlight the importance of prominently displaying house numbers especially in rural locations but also including urban areas.

**E146/18      Amendments to the Fire and Rescue Service (Northern Ireland) Order 2006**

The Head of Building Control presented previously circulated report which advised of consultation in relation to the proposal to make amendments to the Fire and Rescue Service (Northern Ireland) Order 2006.

Proposed by Councillor S McGuigan  
Seconded by Councillor McNamee and

**Resolved**      That it be recommended to Council to approve the draft responses to questions 1 and 2 of the consultation in relation to the amendment of Fire and Rescue Service (Northern Ireland) Order 2006 as detailed in report.

**E147/18      Environmental Services Service Improvement Plan 2018/19**

The Head of Environmental Services presented previously circulated report which detailed Environmental Services Service Improvement Plan for 2018/19.

The Head of Environmental Services highlighted that Council had maintained its position as the top performing local authority in Northern Ireland by achieving the highest household recycling rate of all eleven Councils and by exceeding the 50% EU target set for 2020. Mid Ulster District Council was also a top performer in street cleansing.

Councillor Burton referred to the target of reducing overtime by £35,000 for the 2018/19 year and asked what impact this will have on workloads and if extra staff will be required to be employed. Councillor Burton also advised there was some concern amongst staff in relation to overtime and working over holiday periods.

The Director of Environment and Property advised that the days/times of operation for services within Environmental Services was previously agreed for the next year. As part of the harmonisation process staff in Dungannon were regraded and that if a member of staff works a bank holiday they are entitled to time plus time plus a day in lieu as per Green Book. The Director stated there was an expectation that bank holiday refuse collections were covered however he advised that collections over the Christmas period have been moved. The Director stated that the budget for overtime has been cut by some £50,000 compared to 2017/2018. With regards to the reorganisation of weekend street cleansing the Director advised that it is planned to move to separately contracted work as opposed to overtime for this service which may mean some staff having more than one contract, discussions in this regard are ongoing with Trade Unions.

Proposed by Councillor McNamee  
Seconded by Councillor S McGuigan and

**Resolved**      That it be recommended to Council to approve the Environmental Services Service Improvement Plan for 2018/19.

**E148/18      Property Services Service Improvement Plan 2018/19**

The Head of Property Services presented previously circulated report which detailed Property Services Service Improvement Plan for 2018/19.

Proposed by Councillor McNamee  
Seconded by Councillor Kearney and

**Resolved**      That it be recommended to Council to approve the Environmental Services Service Improvement Plan for 2018/19.

**Matters for Information**

**E150/18      Minutes of Environment Committee held on Tuesday 10 April 2018**

Members noted minutes of Environment Committee held on Tuesday 10 April 2018.

**E151/18      NIHE – Traveller Provision**

Members noted previously circulated report which provided update on NIHE – Traveller provision within Mid Ulster District Council area and progress on site assessment.

**E152/18      Animal Welfare Service Delivery Statistics 2016/17**

Members noted previously circulated report which provided the DAERA annual report on animal welfare. The report set out information relevant to the public in relation to the animal welfare service provided by each of three different enforcement bodies.

**E153/18      Correspondence Reply from Northern Ireland Environment Agency regarding Seasonal Bonfires**

Members noted previously circulated report which provided update from the Northern Ireland Environment Agency on matters relating to bonfires in the run up to the July bonfire season.

**E154/18      Investigation Report on Keep Warm Packs – Management Implementation Plan**

Members noted previously circulated report which provided update on the Management Action Plan associated with the recommendations of the recent Keep Warm Pack Audit.

**E155/18      Building Control Workload**

Members noted previously circulated report which provided update on the workload analysis for Building Control.

## **E156/18      Entertainment Licensing Applications**

Members noted previously circulated report which provided update on Entertainment Licensing Applications across the Mid Ulster District.

## **E157/18      DfI Proposals for Abandonment of Road at Annaghilla Road, Augher**

Members noted previously circulated report which advised of the Department for Infrastructure's intention to carry out a partial abandonment of road at Annaghilla Road, Augher.

## **E158/18      Cleaner Neighbourhoods Survey/Report 2017/18**

Members noted previously circulated report which advised of results of the annual Cleaner Neighbourhoods Survey/Report.

Councillor B McGuigan referred to local communities who have held litter picking events and felt this was a good initiative which is educational and helped in making people think twice about littering. The Councillor felt that Council should be supportive of such initiatives and encourage other areas to hold similar events.

The Director of Public Health and Infrastructure advised that there was an officer task group which was looking at a number of issues in relation to littering and that a report would be brought to committee in the near future.

In response to Councillor Kearney's comments the Director of Environment and Property advised that Council was currently in the process of producing guidance notes in relation to the public holding litter picks. The Director advised that Council was happy to lend litter pickers and high vis bibs to such events.

Councillor Kearney stated that advice on co-ordination of litter pick events along the roadside would be useful.

The Chair, Councillor McGinley suggested that this be incorporated into the guidance notes being produced.

Councillor Glasgow stated that Mid Ulster District has the highest number of schools participating in the Eco Schools scheme. The Councillor also highlighted that the rural area does suffer from littering along the roadside.

Councillor M Quinn referred to Lough Neagh Partnership who have provided advice and equipment on recent litter picks and that this should be promoted.

Councillor McFlynn referred to the Live Here Love Here Programme which she stated was a good scheme and that groups can 'Adopt a Spot' through this Programme. Councillor McFlynn also referred to the fact that Mid Ulster Council had only issued twelve fixed penalty notices in the year and that it was adults who were causing the littering.

## **E159/18      Eco Speak Competition**

Members noted previously circulated report which provided update on the annual Eco Speak Competition for Mid Ulster Primary Schools held on 17 April.

The Chair, Councillor McGinley stated that this was an excellent event and it was good for Members to hear the suggestions made by the participants. The Chair encouraged Members to view the presentations made by the four finalists via the YouTube link within the report.

Councillor Burton stated that this was a good event and a lot of work had been put in by the participants. Councillor Burton stated that a commitment had been given to look at the suggestions made on the day of the event and in particular that of the winner – ‘If its not blue it won’t do.’

The Chair, Councillor McGinley suggested that a report be brought back to committee on the proposals put forward by finalists.

Agreed.

**Resolved**      That it be recommended to Council that a report on proposals put forward by finalists of the Eco Speak competition be brought to future committee meeting.

## **E160/18      Introduction of prepayment system at Recycling Centres**

Members noted previously circulated report which provided update on the introduction of a pre-payment system for the acceptance of commercial waste at Cookstown, Drumcoo and Magherafelt Recycling Centres.

## **E161/18      Disposal/Sale of Assets – Fleet and Plant**

Members noted previously circulated report which advised of the disposal/sale of surplus fleet, plant and equipment from Mid Ulster District Council.

## **Local Government (NI) Act 2014 - Confidential Business**

Proposed by Councillor Gillespie  
Seconded by Councillor S McGuigan and

**Resolved**      In accordance with Section 42, Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (NI) 2014 that Members of the public be asked to withdraw from the meeting whilst Members consider items E163/18 to E168/18.

### **Matters for Decision**

- E163/18      Tender Report for the Replacement Roof at Dungannon Depot
- E164/18      Amenity and Planting Sponsorship

- E165/18 Consultancy/software for refuse collection route  
optimisation
- E166/18 Residual Waste Contract – Award Challenge Update

**Matters for Information**

- E167/18 Confidential Minutes of Environment Committee held on  
Tuesday 10 April 2018
- E168/18 Capital Projects Update

**E169/18 Duration of Meeting**

The meeting was called for 7.00 pm and ended at 9.22 pm.

CHAIR \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_