

**Minutes of Meeting of Policy and Resources Committee of Mid Ulster District Council held on Thursday 3 December 2020 in the Council Offices, Circular Road, Dungannon and by Virtual Means**

**Members Present**

Councillor Quinn, Chair

Councillors Ashton (7.05 pm), Buchanan\*, Cuddy\*, Doris\*, Elattar\*, Forde\*, Gildernew\*, Hughes\*, McFlynn\*, S McGuigan, McKinney, McLean\*, S McPeake\*, Molloy, Totten\*

**Officers in Attendance**

Mr McCreesh, Acting Chief Executive  
Mrs Campbell\*\*, Director of Leisure and Outdoor Recreation  
Mrs Canavan\*\*, Director of Organisational Development  
Mr Cassells, Director of Environment and Property  
Mr Kelso, Director of Public Health and Infrastructure  
Ms Mezza\*\*, Head of Marketing and Communications  
Mrs McNally\*\*, Council Solicitor  
Mr Moffett\*\*, Head of Democratic Services  
Mr O'Hagan, Head of IT  
Mr JJ Tohill, Director of Finance  
Mrs Grogan, Democratic Services Officer

\* Denotes members present in remote attendance

\*\* Denotes Officers present by remote means

\*\*\* Denotes Others present by remote means

The meeting commenced at 7.00 pm.

*The Chair, Councillor Quinn welcomed everyone to the meeting and those watching the meeting through the Live Broadcast. Councillor Quinn in introducing the meeting detailed the operational arrangements for transacting the business of the committee in the chamber and by virtual means, by referring to Annex A to this minute.*

**PR201/20 Apologies**

None.

**PR202/20 Declarations of Interest**

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

**PR203/20 Chair's Business**

None.

## **Matters for Decision**

### **PR204/20 Policy on Room Hire**

The Head of Democratic Services presented previously circulated report and asked for further consideration on the application and review of the Council's current general policy on Room Hire, with specific reference to Section 5.3 of existing arrangements – exclusions to hire.

Councillor Molloy referred to five points which were included to be considered and discussions around party leads stated that his party would be happy to take this away and include the five reference points into a new updated policy.

Councillor McLean felt there was enough information tabled and was a start to bring something together and would be happy to progress on that basis.

Councillor Cuddy stated that during discussions with his group on this issue, it was felt that when the original was previously presented they were content with that. He said that his party's position would be that they would be happy to progress on with the existing policy as it was fit for purpose moving forward

Councillor McFlynn said that the report was quite detailed and a good starting point with the five bullets points being very good and concurred with previous comments and proposed to progress ahead.

Councillor McKinney concurred with Councillor Cuddy and stated that banners, posters and paraphilia wouldn't be something that he would encourage behind closed doors and not something that should be encouraged within Council buildings. He felt that whatever domination or party a person adheres to, those sort of activities are not for Council property.

Councillor McLean advised that his party looked at this on the point of view based on the party which proposed the change that if it come to the full Council that there would be a very strong possibility that it would be approved. He said that his party looked at it on the point of view that whilst they were happy with the existing policy and if there was going to be a change, then they would like to be part of the influence in that change, so therefore on that basis he said what he did. He felt that it was inevitable based on the previous comments and those made tonight, that there was going to be some change and stated that his party would be reasonable happy with what was set out but would wait to see the final paper when it was brought forward.

Proposed by Councillor McFlynn  
Seconded by Councillor Molloy and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to revise the Policy on Room Hire to incorporate issues referred to 3.3 of the officers report and be brought back to the next available Policy and Resources Committee meeting for final consideration.

**PR205/20    Members Services**

No issues.

**Matters for Information**

**PR206/20    Policy and Resources Committee Minutes of Meeting held on 5 November 2020**

Members noted Policy and Resources Committee Minutes of Meeting held on 5 November 2020.

**PR207/20    Rural Community Network Membership Subscription**

Members noted report on Rural Community Network Membership Subscription which provided members with an opportunity to consider if Mid Ulster District Council would nominate a Member to join RCN's Board.

**PR208/20    General Duty to Improve Update - Guidance from Department of Communities and NI Audit Office**

Members noted update on Council's General Duty to Improve in the context of Covid-19 and guidance received from the Department of Communities and Northern Ireland Audit Office.

*Live broadcast ended at 7.10 pm.*

**Local Government (NI) Act 2014 – Confidential Business**

Proposed by Councillor Molloy  
Seconded by Councillor McKinney 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 Member consider items PR209/20 to PR222/20.

**Matters for Decision**

- PR209/20    Village Extension Programme – Maghera Leisure Centre
- PR210/20    Staffing Matters for Decision
- PR211/20    Technical Services Staff Restructuring
- PR212/20    Off Street Car Parking: Debt Write Off
- PR213/20    Development of Ann Street – Update re Shared Access Agreement and Request for Phasing
- PR214/20    2021/22 Rate Estimates
- PR215/20    Proposed Council response to NIAO consultation in relation to the draft Code of Audit Practice
- PR216/20    Maghera Sports Pitch
- PR217/20    Coalisland Public Realm
- PR218/20    SEUPB Projects

**Matters for Information**

PR219/20 Confidential Minutes of Policy & Resources Committee  
Meeting held on 5 November 2020  
PR220/20 Staff Matters for Information  
PR221/20 Financial report for 7 months ended 31 October 2020  
PR222/20 Contracts and DAC

**PR223/20 Duration of Meeting**

The meeting commenced at 7 pm and concluded at 9.40 pm

Chair \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_