



14 October 2021

Dear Councillor

You are invited to attend a meeting of the Development Committee to be held in The Chamber, Magherafelt and by virtual means Council Offices, Ballyronan Road, Magherafelt, BT45 6EN on Thursday, 14 October 2021 at 19:00 to transact the business noted below.

A link to join the meeting through the Council's remote meeting platform will follow.

Yours faithfully

Adrian McCreesh  
Chief Executive

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## AGENDA

### OPEN BUSINESS

1. Apologies
2. Declarations of Interest  
Members should declare any financial and non-financial interests they have in the items of business for consideration, identifying the relevant agenda item and the nature of their interest.
3. Chair's Business
4. Deputation - South Tyrone Empowerment Project

### Matters for Decision

- |                                                                                |         |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| 5. Economic Development OBFD                                                   | 3 - 6   |
| 6. Update on Department for Communities Access and Inclusion Programme 2021/22 | 7 - 12  |
| 7. Lough Neagh Partnership Core Funding 2021/22                                | 13 - 18 |
| 8. Sports Representative Grants                                                | 19 - 22 |
| 9. Cycling Ireland Regional Cycle Hubs                                         | 23 - 30 |
| 10. Swim Ulster                                                                | 31 - 38 |
| 11. Cahore Playing Fields, Draperstown                                         | 39 - 80 |

### Matters for Information

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17	Master Plan/Business Case - Maghera Walkways	169 - 174

**Items restricted in accordance with Section 42, Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (NI) 2014. The public will be asked to withdraw from the meeting at this point.**

Matters for Decision

18. Davagh Forest Mountain Bike Trails – TRPSI Application

Matters for Information

19. Confidential Minutes of Development Committee held on 16 September 2021

<b>Report on</b>	1. Social Enterprise NI: Council Membership 2021/22 2. Christmas Off Street Car Parking Charges - Dungannon & Magherafelt
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	14 October 2021
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Assistant Director – Economic Development, Tourism & Strategic Programmes

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

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	To provide Members with an update on key activities as detailed below.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	<p><b>Social Enterprise NI: Council Membership 2021/22</b> Social Enterprise NI (SENI) is the membership body for social enterprises across NI with the team providing support to members. In addition to social enterprises, membership includes organisations from outside the sector such as private and public sector bodies, including local Councils.</p>
2.2	<p><b>Christmas Off Street Car Parking Charges Dungannon &amp; Magherafelt</b> Over the last six years, a car parking scheme was implemented in Dungannon and Magherafelt town centres to boost trading over the key Christmas period. Following positive feedback from businesses and the public, it is proposed to bring into effect a similar scheme this year to support the local businesses.</p>
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Report</b>
3.1	<p><b>Social Enterprise NI: Council Membership</b> The responsibilities that were transferred to local Councils in 2015 under the Reform of Local Government included that of the social economy sector. Since 2015, all Councils have signed up as members of SENI. The range of benefits in becoming a member include the following, as a minimum:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SENI will promote any Council events for social enterprises in their e-zine and social media</li> <li>• SENI offer free membership to any new social enterprise in the area for the first year if they are not already members of SENI.</li> <li>• Host joint events with the Council including Pitching Events, Buy Social Events, Entrepreneurship week support etc.</li> </ul>

3.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Free training on topics such as “What is Social Value” with any Council staff or members at any time should you feel that appropriate, or any other relevant training required, in order to better understand the business model.</li> <li>• Listing as a Corporate Member on SENI’s new website (coming soon)</li> <li>• Access to discounted events for members including Awards and Conferences</li> <li>• Access to free bursaries that SENI offers to members</li> </ul> <p>Members are therefore requested to consider Council membership of SENI for a fee of £800 for the financial year 2021/22.</p> <p><b>Christmas Off Street Car Parking Charges - Dungannon &amp; Magherafelt</b>  As part of this year’s Christmas Promotional Campaign, officers have considered options for a car-parking scheme in Dungannon and Magherafelt town centres aimed at encouraging footfall and spend during the critical festive trading period. Following positive feedback from trader groups, it is proposed to implement a similar scheme to last year as follows:-</p> <p>The First 3 Hours parking for 10 pence in <u>all</u> Pay &amp; Display Car Parks from Saturday 20 November 2021 to Saturday 1 January 2022 (6 week period). The total cost of implementation will be in the region of £23,400.</p> <p>The normal tariff is 40p for 1 hour (except for Central in Magherafelt, which has a tariff of 40p per three hours) and the proposed pricing arrangements are intended to boost town centre trade at one of the busiest times of year. The very nominal fee of 10p for the First Three Hours is being charged to prevent 'all day parkers' and ensure town centre car parks are available to visitors and shoppers. The car parks included in the scheme are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ann Street East, Castle Hill, Perry Street West and Scotch Street North in Dungannon.</li> <li>• Rainey Street, Union Road and Central in Magherafelt.</li> </ul>
	<b>Other Considerations</b>
4.1	<p><b>Financial, Human Resources &amp; Risk Implications</b></p> <p>Financial:</p> <p><b>Social Enterprise NI: Council Membership</b>  Membership Subscription Fee: £800 is available from the 2021/22 economic development budget.</p> <p><b>Christmas Off Street Car Parking Charges Dungannon &amp; Magherafelt –</b>  Budget of £23,400 available under the Economic Development Budget</p> <p>Human:  Officer Time</p> <p>Risk Management:  N/A</p>

4.2	<b>Screening &amp; Impact Assessments</b>
	Equality & Good Relations Implications:
	Rural Needs Implications:
5.0	<b>Recommendation(s)</b>
	Members are requested to;
5.1	<b>Social Enterprise NI: Council Membership</b> <b>Approve</b> for Mid Ulster District Council to subscribe to become a member of Social Enterprise NI at a cost of £800.
5.2	<b>Christmas Off Street Car Parking Charges Dungannon &amp; Magherafelt</b> <b>Approve</b> the temporary reduced tariff for the first 3 hours of 10 pence in all Off Street Pay & Display Car Parks in Dungannon and Magherafelt from Saturday 20 November 2021 to Saturday 1 January 2022 (6-week period) at a cost of £23,400.
	<b>Documents Attached &amp; References</b>
	N/A



<b>Report on</b>	Update on Department for Communities Access and Inclusion Programme 2021/22
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> October 2021
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Tony McCance, Head of Culture & Arts
<b>Contact Officer</b>	Tony McCance, Head of Culture & Arts Nigel Hill, Head of Parks Kieran Gordon, Head of Leisure Michael Browne, Head of Tourism

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

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	To provide members with an update on the 2021/22 Department for Communities Access and Inclusion Funding Programme
1.2	To provide members with the list of projects approved for funding by Department for Communities.
1.3	To seek approval to set up specific finance codes to incur expenditure for each project where required.
1.4	To seek approval to utilise the approved Council framework contractors, where required and
1.5	To seek approval to initiate a tender process to appoint a suitably qualified contractor to install automated doors at the five locations as identified within section 3 of this report.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	The Department for Communities (DfC) Access and Inclusion Capital Programme for 2021/22 is designed to improve access to and participation in arts and cultural activity and leisure and outdoor recreational activity by people with disabilities across Northern Ireland.
2.2	The Department for Communities invited Local Councils to apply for funding available through the programme and to assist in the prioritising of project submissions developed by Mid Ulster District Council, prior to submission to the Department for Communities prior to final Departmental assessment.
2.3	The maximum funding available for each project is £30,000 with up to 90% grant funding being provided.

2.4	Council-owned Culture & Arts, leisure, outdoor recreation and tourism projects were eligible to apply.
2.5	Applicants are eligible to apply for amounts up to the maximum of £30,000 per project, with a 10% funding contribution requirement from the applicant.
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Report</b>
3.1	In total, 12 projects were submitted by Mid Ulster District Council to the Department for Communities (DfC) Access and Inclusion Capital Programme for 2021/22, with 11 projects successfully progressing and being allocated 90% funding (total value of projects - £197,182.10)
3.2	Following assessment by Department for Communities, 11 project submissions have now been approved with a total funding allocation by the Department for Communities of £177,463.89 (10% funding contribution of £19,718.21 to be met by Mid Ulster District Council).
3.3	<p>The 11 projects approved for funding are as follows:</p> <p><b>1. Burnavon Access and Inclusion Project</b>  <b>Total Project cost: £13,000.10</b>  The funding will be used for:  a) upgrading existing support hearing system throughout the facility.  b) To purchase equipment, including adjustable lighting and AV cameras, which will enhance areas used for workshops, events, and activities. This will particularly be of benefit to persons with Autism Spectrum Disorder, as well as those with sight problems and restricted movement.</p> <p><b>2. Greenvale Leisure Centre PoolPod Pool Access System</b>  <b>Total Project cost: £30,000</b>  The project seeks to install a Pool Pod pool hoist at the main pool area of Greenvale Leisure Centre.  The addition of the Pool pod pool hoist will provide equal access for users with a disability, allowing unrestricted access to both the main and learner pool, without the requirement for users to pre-book and/ or face lengthy waiting times at poolside/ reception.</p> <p><b>3. Bridewell Automated/Power Assisted Accessible Doors &amp; Loop Systems</b>  <b>Total Project cost: £10,500</b>  To ensure that the building is accessible to all, this project proposes to improve access by replacing the existing heavy wooden doors with automated accessible doors, and installing an updated Loop system in the main hall/event space and a portable loop system in the main reception area.</p> <p><b>4. Provision of 1No. Ability / Wheelchair swing</b>  <b>Total Project cost: £14,982</b></p>



This project focuses on improving inclusive play provision at Fairhill Play Area enabling all children, regardless of ability, to play together. This will be achieved through the provision of an Ability / wheelchair swing.

**5. Provision of 13no. Independent “Hearing loop systems” at MUDC Leisure sites:-**

**Total Project cost: £5,000**

Dungannon Leisure Centre (2), Cookstown Leisure Centre (1), MidUlster Sports Arena (2), Moneymore Rec. Centre (2), Greenvale Leisure Centre(2), Meadowbank Sports Arena (2), Maghera Rec. Centre(2).

This equipment will assist patrons with their hearing restrictions to communicate with Customer Service areas and assist in their participation of meetings:-

1no. Permanently located at Main Reception Area

1no. Mobile, to assist with meetings/ conferences/ workshops etc.

**6. Installation of - automated / power assist doors at Mid Ulster Sports Arena**

**Total Project cost: £16,000**

Installation of automated doors throughout Pavilion 2 the leisure facility detailed below –

- Entrance
- Internal door
- Changing room

Installing automated doors in this venue will ensure it is more accessible for members of the public who wouldn't ordinarily have had confidence or ability to access leisure facilities.

**7. Installation of - automated / power assist doors at Maghera Leisure Centre**

**Total Project cost: £24,000**

Installation of automated doors at the leisure facility detailed below –

- Front entrance

Installing automated doors in this venue will ensure it is more accessible for members of the public who wouldn't ordinarily have had confidence or ability to access leisure facilities.

**8. Installation of - automated / power assist doors at Cookstown Leisure Centre.**

**Total Project cost: £26,000**

Installation of automated doors throughout the leisure facility detailed below –

- wet changing area
- viewing gallery
- main gym
- main hall
- meeting room

	<p>Installing automated doors in this venue will ensure it is more accessible for members of the public who wouldn't ordinarily have had confidence or ability to access leisure facilities.</p> <p><b>9. Installation of - automated / power assist doors at Greenvale Leisure Centre.</b>  <b>Total Project cost: £30,000</b></p> <p>Installation of automated doors throughout the leisure facility detailed below –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• sports hall</li> <li>• main dryside corridor x 2</li> <li>• swimming changing</li> <li>• gym</li> <li>• wet changing area</li> </ul> <p>Installing automated doors in this venue will ensure it is more accessible for members of the public who wouldn't ordinarily have had confidence or ability to access leisure facilities.</p> <p><b>10. Installation of - automated / power assist doors at Tobermore Golf Centre.</b>  <b>Total Project cost: £23,000</b></p> <p>Installation of automated doors at the leisure facility detailed below –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Front entrance</li> <li>• Rear exit</li> <li>• Internal doors to bays</li> </ul> <p>Installing automated doors in this venue will ensure it is more accessible for members of the public who wouldn't ordinarily have had confidence or ability to access leisure facilities.</p> <p><b>11. Purchase of Accessible picnic tables.</b>  <b>Total Project cost: £4,700</b></p> <p>This project focuses on the purchase of 10 accessible picnic tables. These accessible picnic tables will be placed at various locations within the Parks Departments remit within the Mid-Ulster District Council area. These locations include picnic areas, parks and open spaces.</p>
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
<b>4.1</b>	<p><b>Financial, Human Resources &amp; Risk Implications</b></p> <p>Financial:  Projects submitted are required to provide matched funding of 10% (projects are 90% funded through the DfC Access and Inclusion programme 2021/22). The 10% match funding requirement can be met from within the existing budgets of applicant Services within Mid Ulster District Council</p>

	<p>Human: Staff time and staff resource allocated to delivering projects. This can be met from within existing resources within each of the Service teams responsible for delivering each project.</p>
	<p>Risk Management: All 12 projects approved for funding by DfC, will be required to be completed by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022.</p>
<b>4.2</b>	<b>Screening &amp; Impact Assessments</b>
	<p>Equality &amp; Good Relations Implications: The Purpose of the DfC Access and Inclusion funding programme 2021/22 is to provide capital funding to ensure that access to arts, culture, leisure and recreational and outdoor activities is equitable throughout all 11 local authority areas.</p>
	<p>Rural Needs Implications:</p> <p>Rural needs are considered as part of the planned activity undertaken by Council Services including Culture &amp; Arts, Leisure, Parks Tourism and Property Services.</p> <p>Rural needs are also considered as part of the delivery of the DfC Access and Inclusion Programme 2021/22</p>
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Recommendation(s)</b>
5.1	Members are asked to note the update on the 2021/22 Department for Communities Access and Inclusion Funding Programme
5.2	To seek approval to set up specific finance codes to incur expenditure for each project where required.
5.3	To seek approval to utilise the approved Council framework contractors, where required, to deliver the projects identified and
5.4	To seek approval to initiate a tender process to appoint a suitably qualified contractor for the installation of automated doors at the five locations as identified.
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Documents Attached &amp; References</b>
	N/A



<b>Report on</b>	Lough Neagh Partnership Core Funding 2021/22
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	14 <sup>th</sup> October 2021
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Michael Browne
<b>Contact Officer</b>	Allison O'Keefe

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

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	To approve annual contribution for year 2021/22 towards the core running costs associated with Lough Neagh Partnership (LNP) in the delivery of marketing tourism, recreational, environmental and heritage activities on Lough Neagh (LN) and the shoreline on behalf of Mid Ulster District Council.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	<p>LNP is the main co-ordinating body for tourism, environmental, heritage and marketing activities on Lough Neagh, delivering projects and programmes on behalf of local and central government. Funding is sought to operate a continuous marketing plan for LN, including areas within Mid Ulster.</p> <p>LNP receives funding toward core running costs from five Council's around the Lough Shore for the co-ordination of substantial development, promotion and marketing of LN.</p>
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Report</b>
3.1	<p>Funding primarily contributes towards core staff costs (Manager, Marketing Officer and Admin/Finance Officer), development/ delivery of programmes and office running costs.</p> <p>LNP will continue to identify and secure additional investment to the region to assist in addressing social, environmental and economic issues around the Lough. As part of the funding LNP will offer Mid Ulster District Council continued coordination and marketing around Lough Neagh and its Waterways and continue to develop the Lough as a tourism destination.</p> <p>The overall cost of the project is £73,000 and funding is conditional to requests being made to the other five Councils around the Lough Shore, pro-rata in accordance with the approximate amount of shoreline and/or activity hubs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mid Ulster District Council £22,000</li> <li>• Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council £22,000</li> <li>• Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council £22,000</li> <li>• Mid &amp; East Antrim Council £3,500</li> <li>• Lisburn &amp; Castlereagh Council £3,500</li> </ul>

	Measurable targets and quantifiable outputs attached in Appendix 1.
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
<b>4.1</b>	<p><b><u>Financial &amp; Human Resources Implications</u></b></p> <p>Financial: £22,000 which has been identified in the 2021/22 budget and will be paid in 2 stages:</p> <p>Stage 1 payment covering period 1 April – 30 August 2021</p> <p>Stage 2 payment covering 1 September – 31 March 2022</p>
<b>4.2</b>	<p><b><u>Equality and Good Relations Implications</u></b></p> <p>Ensure effective co-ordination of activities on LN and its shoreline and deliver social, economic and cultural benefits within MU. LNP is committed to the promotion of equality of opportunity in all its activities with a focus on all citizens living within the Mid Ulster area of LN.</p>
<b>4.3</b>	<p><b><u>Risk Management Implications</u></b></p> <p>LNP has been in existence since 2003 with experience in managing risk. Funding has been secured with 4 Councils surrounding Lough shore therefore minimising risk to MUDC. Monitoring and verification of original invoices, payslips and corresponding bank statements, as well as quarterly reports and site visits will be carried out to minimise risk.</p>
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Recommendation(s)</b>
5.1	Recommend Mid Ulster District Council fund Lough Neagh Partnership £22,000 as requested subject to funding being secured from all five Councils on the shores of Lough Neagh.
5.2	Recommend that the Lough Neagh Partnership submit a quarterly update to MUDC.
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Documents Attached &amp; References</b>
6.1	Appendix 1 - LNP Application Report for Funding 2021/22



**LOUGH NEAGH PARTNERSHIP CORE FUNDING 2021/22 - £22,000**  
**MID ULSTER DISTRICT COUNCIL ANNUAL FUNDING MEASUREABLE TARGETS AND QUANTIFIABLE**  
**OUTPUTS**

<b>Targets</b>	<b>Target Date</b> <b>31/03/2022</b>	<b>Quantifiable Outputs</b>
<b>1. Landscape Partnership Project</b> Deliver Year 5 of the Lough Neagh Landscape Partnership project		Landscape Partnership delivered with full completion of projects as of September 2021
<b>2. Destination Marketing Plan</b> Working with Mid Ulster Council and stakeholders, identify and help develop new tourism products on Lough		The Partnership has been working closely with the Mid Ulster Council to develop an “Embrace the Spirit” Experiential Tourism project with Mid Ulster. This is building on the work of the Partnership in developing the Food and Craic tours around the western shores of the Lough and Lough Beg. The new potential programme will work with local private businesses in the mid ulster area and at the same time promote the wider Lough as an important place to visit.
<b>3. General Marketing and Promotion of Lough Neagh</b>  Ensure that VICs provide event information to Tourism NI on regular basis  Co-ordination of Tourism NI marketing features for LN work includes co-ordination of marketing features for Tourism NI productions/advertorials. Production & distribution of Lough Neagh E-Newsletter for stakeholders & consumers online.  Trade fairs and exhibitions		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimum of 20 events per District</li> <li>• MUDC events submitted to TNI will be featured on Discover Lough Neagh website &amp; app</li> <li>• 2 advertorials - Spring and Autumn</li> <li>• 3 stakeholder newsletters - Quarterly</li> <li>• Minimum 6 press releases</li> <li>• Review other content on website &amp; update</li> <li>• Issue of event updates and press releases.</li> <li>• 200 posts for consumer and trade pages on Facebook &amp; Twitter</li> </ul> <p>Lough Neagh Partnership will attend trade fairs and exhibitions with Mid Ulster staff where opportunities arise to promote the destination and its events.</p>
<b>4. Lough Neagh Artisan Food Programme</b> Implement a Lough Neagh Artisan Food project		Implement an artisan food branding project and help group members in Mid Ulster area. There are eight businesses in total, two of which are in the Mid Ulster area. The

		purpose of the project is to help train the businesses and create a supply chain for the artisan products. It is now in the second year of the programme.
<b>5. Liaison with MUDC</b> Ongoing liaison MUDC		The Partnership manager meets regularly with Mid Ulster Council officers to update on progress and assistance in any joint projects
<b>6. NIEA Shoreline plan</b>  Attract new funding and engage with farmers and landowners on the western shore to improve condition of western shore		<p>Lough Neagh Partnership staff will help implement and administer funding of £73,000 which has been secured for a second year from NIEA towards the development and implementation of management plans for Special Protected Areas (SPAs). A large part of this project will relate to the Mid Ulster Council Area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitor all birds on Loughs western shore.</li> <li>• Monitor condition of all small Islands on western shore.</li> <li>• Monitor all main important beaches for invertebrates.</li> <li>• Monitor any habitat changes in western shores</li> </ul> <p>This is a very important service that could help the Council as it provides an indication of the health of its Lough shoreline in terms of habitats and species.</p> <p>The Partnership has also applied for assistance to carry out a study into the impact of climate change on the Lough and again Lough Neagh Partnership will liaise closely with Council when it is implemented.</p>
<b>7. Implement 2 Group Farm Schemes on Lough Neagh</b> 2 new Group Farm Schemes set up.		The Partnership manages and administers a £200,000 DAERA Group Farm Scheme for Lough Neagh with main focus area in western shores/ mid ulster area giving help and assistance to over 19 new farmers along the mid ulster shoreline on Lough Neagh. Over 50 farmers within the Council area are included in the scheme which helps farmers better manage their land in an environmentally sensitive way and received income for this. Over £1.27 million of investment has been brought into the area through the Environmental Group Scheme and this offers great value to the Council area. The partnership would be very willing to deliver a presentation to the Council on this project.
<b>8. Lough Neagh Planning</b>		Lough Neagh Partnership staff to attend any Lough Neagh Planning meetings led by Mid Ulster District Council and give advice and assistance on the development of a



Assist Mid Ulster Council Planning Group to develop new planning zone designation for Lough Neagh		new co-ordinated Lough Neagh plan. It has also liaised closely with Council regarding the illegal extraction of peat in the southern area of the lough.
<b>9. EU Life Plus Project and NPA application</b>		New NPA development application to be submitted.
<b>10. Coalisland HLF Great Places Project</b> Make application		Lough Neagh Partnership is in the final stages of completion of the Great Places project in Coalisland and wider area. Up to £500,000 will be invested in the area working with local people to protect and celebrate its industrial heritage. The Coalisland Museum has been restored and is now open for planned visits. Communities have worked closely to complete this project. The Project has been impacted by Covid, however a great deal of work has been taking place on-line.
<b>11. Lough Neagh Interdepartmental Committee and Ownership</b>		Work with political parties to develop an interdepartmental committee and ownership for the Lough. This is an important project that the Council should become involved in.
<b>12. Moil Cattle Scheme</b>		The partnership is continuing to develop the Moiled Cattle Scheme.
<b>13. Navigation scheme and Black water mouth</b>		The partnership is liaising with DFI regarding Lough Neagh and Mid-Ulster Rivers e.g. the River Blackwater.
<b>14. Common Tern Project</b>		Lough Neagh Partnership staff assisted with the implementation and installation of new Common Tern raft in Ballyronan.



<b>Report on</b>	Sports Representative Grants
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	14 <sup>th</sup> October 2021
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Kieran Gordon, Head of Leisure
<b>Contact Officer</b>	Leigh Gilmore, Participation Manager Margaret McCammon Community Development Officer

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

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	To present to Members the proposed community grant allocations for the range of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sports Representative Grant - Team and Individuals (September 2021)</li> </ul>
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	The Sports Representative Grants (Individual and Team) is a continuous rolling programme.
2.2	Previously in September 2021, Members approved the recommendation for the period February 2021 – August 2021.
2.3	Eligibility criteria compliance was completed by officers followed by grant programme assessment.
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Report</b>
3.1	Detailed analysis of the proposed grant awards are attached with Appendix A for information.
3.2	Summary detail is as follows: The Sports Representative Grant: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7 Individual applications were received during this period and proposal to award a total of £1,650.</li> <li>No Team applications were received during this period.</li> </ul>
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
<b>4.1</b>	<b>Financial, Human Resources &amp; Risk Implications</b>
	Financial:  The Sports Representative Grant is a continuous rolling programme with an annual allocation for 2021/2022 of £15,000; however £8,000 was allocated in June 2021 to Small Sports Grants leaving a revised budget of £7,000. £2,275 was approved in September, leaving a balance of £4,725. Should the grants recommendations contained within this report be approved, £3,075 remains available to be allocated for the remainder of this financial year until March 2022.

	Human: Officer time.
	Risk Management: In line with Council policies and procedures.
<b>4.2</b>	<b>Screening &amp; Impact Assessments</b>
	Equality & Good Relations Implications:
	Rural Needs Implications:
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Recommendation(s)</b>
5.1	To note the contents of this report and give approval for the sports grant allocations as recommended within this report.
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Documents Attached &amp; References</b>
6.1	Appendix A: Grant recipients and amount of grant award.

**Appendix A: Grant recipients and amount of grant award.**

**Sportsperson Representative on eligible cost to a max of £250**

Name		Project Title	Amount Requested	Band	Amount Awarded
Miles	Hutchinson	WHEA World strongman/strongwoman Championships	£1,125	1	£250
Dermot	Loughran	The European Amateur Snooker Championship	£884.24	1	£250
Erin	Mathieson	Ballendenisk International Horse Trials	£579	2	£225
Dean	McGucken	DTL Clay Pigeon Home International Competition	£945	2	£225
Darren	Rafferty	European Junior Cycling Championships	£353	2	£225
Steven	Stewart	DTL Clay Pigeon Home International Competition	£945	2	£225
Patrick	Wallace	The European Amateur Snooker Championship	£986.64	1	£250
Total					<b>£1,650</b>

Band	Amount
1	<b>£250.00</b>
2	<b>£225.00</b>
3	<b>£200.00</b>
4	<b>£175.00</b>
5	<b>£150.00</b>



<b>Report on</b>	Cycling Ireland Regional Cycle Hubs
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	14 <sup>th</sup> October 2021
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Kieran Gordon, Head of Leisure
<b>Contact Officer</b>	Kieran Gordon, Head of Leisure

<b>Is this report restricted for confidential business?</b>	Yes	
If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	No	x

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	The Membership Development Officer for the Ulster Branch of Cycling Ireland has contacted Mid Ulster District Council with a proposal to establish a Regional Cycling Hub in the District.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	The 'Cycling Hub' project is a new initiative that Cycling Ireland have launched in conjunction with funding from the Department of Communities (DfC). Cycling Ireland's project aims to progress the development of innovative, unique cycling development and training hubs at identified key strategic locations in local Council areas.
2.2	This hub is designed to improve the health and wellbeing of people in the area and encourage the development of cycling using a range of Cycling Ireland programmes and Cycling Ireland initiatives.
2.3	To date, as part of Cycling Ireland Phase 1 Hub implementation, 3 hubs are now onsite at locations in the following council areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Causeway Coast and Glens Council</li> <li>• Fermanagh and Omagh Council</li> <li>• Newry Mourne and Down Council</li> </ul>
2.4	As part of Cycling Irelands Phase 2 Hub implementation, approval has been given to launch this initiative in the following Council areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon Council</li> <li>• Antrim and Newtownabbey Council.</li> </ul>
2.5	Cycling Ireland wish to include Mid Ulster District Council within their Phase 2 Hub rollout therefore are seeking approval to progress this project with a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The draft is enclosed within Appendix A.
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Report</b>
3.1	The Hubs cost approx. £30k (ex Vat) and are fully supported and managed via Cycling Ireland through their funding from DfC.
3.2	The Hubs, contain a classroom and a storage facility (made up of 2 – 20ft x 10ft purpose built shipping containers). Each hub is furnished with equipment (approx. £1,500-£2,000 per hub) and they can be used by Cycling Ireland for training courses with local cycling

	clubs and running other events. It is intended that they will also be available for Council to use for coaching/walking programmes and coach education courses where relevant.
3.3	Cycling Ireland's aim is to provide training for children through to adults as well as for people with disabilities, members of local clubs and grass roots right through to elite type cyclists. This initiative is being delivered with the intention of Cycling Ireland coaches being able to come to a hub in a geographical area rather than expecting participants to travel to other locations outside of their district area.
3.4	Cycling Ireland has also been working on a Bike Safety/Road Safety and turnaround project through the Department of Justice working with young offenders. All courses and events would be promoted and run by Cycling Ireland.
3.5	Cycling Ireland have stated that their preferred strategic location for a hub in the Mid Ulster District is within the Dungannon area - due to the locality of the current phase 1 cycling hubs in other council areas, taking account of their future hub location plans and to ensure that there is a good spread of hubs in the province and that they are within reasonable travel distances for cycling clubs to access.
3.6	Should Council approve the proposal, a Memorandum of Understanding would be put in place and a suitable location within the Dungannon area would need to be agreed (generally somewhere with proximity to a shared use path networks, available suitable space with potential for electricity connection and access to toilet facilities). Public Liability Insurance cover would be provided for through Cycling Ireland.
3.7	Cycling Ireland requests that host councils meet the cost of minor enabling works in the form of electricity supply to the site and construction of a base – estimated at approx. £2,000 - £4,000 per hub). Additionally Cycling Ireland requests that host councils meet ongoing annual running costs for electricity – estimated at approx. £200-£500 per year). All other elements relating to the Hub including staffing, inspections, keyholding, etc on an ongoing basis would be the responsibility of Cycling Ireland.
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
<b>4.1</b>	<b>Financial, Human Resources &amp; Risk Implications</b>
	<p>Financial:  Minor enabling works estimated at approx. £2,000 - £4,000 can be derived via existing revenue budgets for 2021/2022.  Ongoing annual running costs for electricity – estimated at approx. £200-£500 per year can be derived via existing revenue budgets and factored into future budgets.</p>
	<p>Human:  Officer time to co-ordinate, implement and monitor the planned project in conjunction with Cycling Ireland. Can be delivered within existing resources.</p>
	<p>Risk Management:  Considered in line with Council Policies and Procedures.</p>
<b>4.2</b>	<b>Screening &amp; Impact Assessments</b>
	Equality & Good Relations Implications:
	Rural Needs Implications:



<b>5.0</b>	<b>Recommendation(s)</b>
5.1	To note the contents of this report and approve the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding that will seek to establish a Cycling Ireland Hub at a suitable location within the Dungannon area and for Council to meet the costs of the initial enabling works and ongoing annual cost of electricity supply.
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Documents Attached &amp; References</b>
6.1	Appendix A – Draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).



## **A Memorandum of Understanding between Cycling Ireland and Mid Ulster District Council in relation to the 'CYCLING HUB' Project 2021-2026**

The '**CYCLING HUB**' project is a new initiative between Cycling Ireland and Mid Ulster District Council which will see the development of an innovative and unique cycling development and training project based at **XXXXXXXXXXXX**. This hub is designed to improve the health and wellbeing of people and the development of Cycling at the **XXXXXXXX** using a range of Cycling Ireland programmes and Cycling Ireland initiatives.

This Memorandum of Understanding outlines the agreement between Cycling Ireland and Mid Ulster District Council with respect to all aspects of the project for the period from 1 November 2021 – 31 March 2026, (Revision March 2022). Under the terms of this agreement, the responsibilities and commitments of parties are outlined below:

### **Cycling Ireland will:**

**Project Lead:** Appoint the following member of staff to lead the project, in partnership with FODC - ***Gary Lavery, Cycling Ireland Membership Development Officer, Ulster.***

### **Equipment:**

- 🚲 Purchase a range cycling resources and equipment, funded by the Department for Communities and Cycling Ireland, as described in Appendix 1.
- 🚲 Permit sharing of equipment, as described in Appendix 1, with Mid Ulster District Council.

**Cycling Hub Unit Delivery:** Organise the delivery of the Cycling Hub units to the project area, as agreed with Mid Ulster District Council staff.

### **Insurance & Maintenance:**

- 🚲 Insure and maintain the equipment stored within the Cycling Hub which will remain the property of Cycling Ireland.
- 🚲 Insure and maintain the Cycling Hub unit which will remain within the responsibility and ownership of Cycling Ireland
- 🚲 Insure and maintain all electrical and health and safety precautions such as fire extinguishers and fully functioning smoke detector system.
- 🚲 Carry out regular checks and any necessary testing – which are recorded.
- 🚲 Provide indemnity to the other parties in relation to Cycling Ireland activities that take place in the Cycling Hub and as a part of Cycling Hub project.
- 🚲 Put COVID-19 packs in place for each hub (see joint responsibilities).
- 🚲 Be responsible for security measures as the main keyholder.

**Access:** will issue keys to the Mid Ulster District Council and Cycling Ulster.

**Project Delivery:**

- 🚲 Develop and deliver a regular programme of activities for people in line with project demand.
- 🚲 Agree all proposed project activities with the Newry and Mourne District Council to ensure no clashing with centre bookings / events.
- 🚲 Book facilities required with Mid Ulster District Council in advance of any project delivery.
- 🚲 Manage all bookings for the Cycling Hub via Eventmaster Cycling Ireland booking system.

**Training:** Arrange for the relevant equipment training for project staff, relevant Mid Ulster District Council staff as well as volunteers.

**Marketing and Promotion:** Have lead responsibility for the marketing and promotion of the Cycling Hub project through all digital media channels as well as in the local and national news media, ensuring that all project partners and funders receive appropriate acknowledgement.

**Monitoring & Evaluation:** Implement an appropriate project monitoring and evaluation process.

**Mid Ulster District Council will:**

**District Council Liaison Officer:** Appoint the following member of staff to help facilitate and support the development of the project, in partnership with Cycling Ireland - **XXXXXXXXXXXXX**

Mid Ulster Council will provide full consent and cooperation in relation to their consent of the placing of the mobile hub at the site.

**Project Hub Units:**

- 🚲 Cover utility costs associated with delivery usage.
- 🚲 Prepare the area, as necessary, for set up of Cycling Hub units including any groundworks and connection of required services to the hubs.

**Access:** Provide relevant keys for autonomous use of the Cycling Hub by Cycling Ireland key partners.

**Signage:** Ensure appropriate signage is provided and maintained.

**Marketing and Promotion:**

- 🚲 Support Cycling Ireland with the marketing and promotion of the project through all digital media channels as well as in the local and national news media, ensuring that all project partners and funders receive appropriate acknowledgement.
- 🚲 This will include actively distributing information and literature to visitors and general park users.

**Annual Review Meeting:** ensure relevant Mid Ulster District Council members of staff attend and contribute to the annual review meeting with Cycling Ireland and “Cycling Hub” Project officer.

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_

On behalf of Cycling Ireland

Name: Matt McKerrow

Position: CEO

Date:

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_

On behalf of Mid Ulster District Council

Name: XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Position: XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Date:

## APPENDIX 1

### **CYCLING HUB PROJECT EQUIPMENT:**

The following range of equipment will be provided by Cycling Ireland:

- 🚲 1 x Projector, and 1 x Table.
- 🚲 1 x Flipchart and 1 x Stand
- 🚲 12 Chairs and 12 Tables
- 🚲 \*2 x Mountain Bikes (Adults)
- 🚲 \*2 x Mountain Bikes (Youth)
- 🚲 2 x Adult Cycling Helmets and 2 x Youth Cycling Helmets.
- 🚲 1 x Electric Tyre Compressor
- 🚲 Bike maintenance equipment and Tools.
- 🚲 Cycling Ireland Programme Specific Equipment including but not inclusive:
  - Selection of Cones, Ramps, Poles, Bean Bags, 2 x Long rope 20metres each approx.
  - Small planks for practicing wheel lifts 1 x 4 2 x 4 type by 40-60cm length
  - Stop watches X 6
- 🚲 First Aid Kit x 1

\*They will be used for the purpose of programme delivery and bike maintenance.

<b>Report on</b>	Swim Ulster
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	14th October 2021
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Kieran Gordon, Head of Leisure
<b>Contact Officer</b>	Sean Cavlin, Leisure & Business Development Manager John Howard, Leisure & Business Development Manager

<b>Is this report restricted for confidential business?</b>	Yes	
If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	No	x

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	The Operations Manager at Swim Ulster has contacted Mid Ulster District Council with concerns over current pricing mechanisms for bookings across the Districts three swimming pools. The purpose of this report is to outline the current pricing costs for swimming club/organisation bookings across all Mid Ulster District Council Leisure sites and give consideration to an amended rate.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	In February 2021, Members approved the "Leisure Pricing April 2021 – March 2022" which sought to consolidate all previous Council approvals (2015, 2018, 2019) and built upon the approach that was previously approved in January 2015 for the harmonised fees, charges and concession prices for leisure for the commencement of the new Mid Ulster District Council in April 2015.
2.2	Following the approval of the February 2021 report, the implementation date for any amendments was due to be 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2021 (subsequently delayed until May 2021 due to covid restrictions and facility closures).
2.3	The Operations Manager at Swim Ulster has now contacted Mid Ulster District Council looking to confirm booking arrangements for the forthcoming year but has expressed budgetary concerns over current pricing mechanisms for bookings across the Districts three swimming pools.
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Report</b>
3.1	Swim Ulster Limited (originally founded in 1893 as the Ulster Branch of the Irish Amateur Swimming Association) was established in 2005 as a company limited by guarantee. Swim Ulster is part of the Swim Ireland family and is recognised by Sport NI as the governing body for aquatic sports in Ulster. A non-profit making company, Swim Ulster operates within the framework defined in its Memorandum and Articles of Association. These identify the members of the company as being drawn from swimming, water polo, diving and synchronised swimming clubs in Ulster that are affiliated to Swim Ireland. Swim Ulster has approximately 3,500 members in 40 clubs.
3.2	For many years, Swim Ulster have organised and run Talent ID and Talent development programmes within the Mid Ulster District Council area. Prior to the onset of the Global Covid 19 pandemic in March 2020, Swim Ulster would have made bookings within our District's pools (predominately Greenvale LC due to the 50m pool) for approx. 40-45 weeks

per annum. Each weekly session seeks to facilitate up to 48 spaces for swimmers to received specialised coaching and currently there are approx. 18 places apportioned to swimmers from the 3 x Mid Ulster District based swim clubs.

3.3 Greenvale LC is viewed as a key strategic location for Swim Ulster to carry out their role as Governing Body in order to provide support to Mid Ulster clubs along with clubs from neighbouring Council areas and to reduce travel commitments to other 50m pools in the province in Bangor and Craigavon.

3.4 Previously in June 2021, Members approved the Strategic Sports Development Grant (max £15k) as part of its annual grants programme. Swim Ulster made an application and following evaluation were awarded £10k for contribution towards a full time Swimming Development Officer/Coach for this financial year. Part of this role is to deliver specialised coaching and to develop partnerships with the 3 x Mid Ulster District based swim clubs

3.5 A summary of current usage from clubs/organisation in the District’s swimming pools is detailed within Appendix A.

3.6 In relation to Greenvale LC, the following clubs/organisations make pool bookings specific to swim coaching:

- 1 x local district swim club make bookings within the pool
- 1 x Governing Body (Swim Ulster)
- 1 x swim club that resides outside the district

Current analysis on bookings and rates are detailed within Appendix A.

3.7 In summary, the following arrangements are in place:

- Local district based swim club - £7.90 per 25m lane and £15.80 per 50m lane – no change
- Swim club that resides outside of the district - previously £30 per 50m lane – mutual agreement to phase to £33.50 until March 2022, £36.60 until December 2022 and then £40 commences from January 2023
- Swim Ulster – previously £20 per 25m lane and £25 per 50m lane. Proposal was to phase £22.50 (25m) and £30 (50m) until March 2022, £25 (25m) and £36.60 (50m) until December 2022 and then £25 (25m) and £40 (50m) commences from January 2023.

3.8 A comparison of Mid Ulster District Council’s pricing against other pools in the province is noted below:

Pool Hire Pricing			
Facility	Council Area	25m Lane Price Per Hour	50m Lane Price Per Hour
Aurora	Ards & North Down Borough Council	£13.25	£26.50
South Lakes	Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon Borough Council	£10.00	£20.00
Lisnasharragh	Belfast City Council	£15.30	N/A
Newry LC	Newry, Mourne & Down District Council	£10.30	N/A
Greenvale LC	Mid Ulster District Council	£25.00	£40.00



3.9	Based on current usage of Greenvale LC and when calculating annual estimated income from Swim Ulster based on previous rates of £25 per 50m lane, it is estimated that Council would have received approx. £7.2k - £8.1k per annum in income. Should booking commitments stay the same, with the approved pricing and a phased incremental approach adopted, Council would achieve approx. £9k - £10.1k per annum from January 2023 onwards.
3.10	Options for consideration: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) <b>Do Nothing</b> – this option would maintain the status quo in line with the pricing rates as previously approved in February 2021.</li> <li>(b) <b>To offer Swim Ulster the same price that local clubs avail off</b> - instead of working towards the approved pricing of £25.00 per lane (25m) and £40.00 per lane (50m) then adopt the local club rate of £7.90 per lane price.</li> <li>(c) <b>Hybrid approach to Swim Ulster Pricing</b> – pro-rata the approved rates by the percentage of coaching spaces that are made available to the 3 x Mid Ulster District based swim clubs</li> </ul>
4.0	<b>Other Considerations</b>
4.1	<b>Financial, Human Resources &amp; Risk Implications</b>  Financial: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) <b>Do Nothing</b> – this option would maintain the status quo in line with the pricing rates as previously approved in February 2021. Swim Ulster have advised they would find it difficult to maintain current operations within the district if they were to pay these rates therefore potential loss of income and/or reduction in coaching hours/pool bookings based on Swim Ulster's available budget. Potential impact to the 3 x Mid Ulster District based swim clubs and clubs within neighbouring Councils.</li> <li>(b) <b>To offer Swim Ulster the same price that local clubs avail off</b> - instead of working towards the approved pricing of £25.00 per lane (25m) and £40.00 per lane (50m) then adopt the local club rate of £7.90 per lane price. Whilst this would be acceptable to Swim Ulster, it may bring pressure from other club groups including those that reside outside the District who appear content with the rates. Potential loss of up to £4.3k - £4.9k per annum in income based on current Swim Ulster rates. Concerns that this loss in income may not be able to be realised elsewhere during this period of recovery from the Covid pandemic.</li> <li>(c) <b>Hybrid approach to Swim Ulster Pricing</b> – 18 out of the 48 weekly spaces for specialised Swim Ulster coaching is currently apportioned to the 3 x Mid Ulster District based swim clubs therefore a direct benefit of Governing Body support to residents in our District. This equates to 37.5% of total spaces.</li> </ul> <p>Officers have pressed Swim Ulster to make available more coaching spaces for Mid Ulster District residents therefore Swim Ulster have committed to working towards making available 24 out of the 48 weekly spaces (50%) available to the 3 x Mid Ulster District based swim clubs over the next 12 months and putting support in place with the 3 x clubs to help them achieve this.</p> <p>Additionally Swim Ulster would seek to hold at least two skills camps in the Mid Ulster area per year. (Holiday time).</p>

	<p>Therefore propose to offer the same percentage discount to Swim Ulster charges to recognise the benefit of this coaching provision for local swimmers within the Mid Ulster District area, ie. £12.50 (25m) and £20 (50m). This would be more in line with what other Council's charge. Whilst there would be a decrease in income, approx £2.7k-£3k per annum, it would not be as severe as option B and the non-monetary benefit is increased provision for Mid Ulster District residents.</p>
	Human: N/A
	Risk Management: Considered in line with Council policies and procedures.
<b>4.2</b>	<b>Screening &amp; Impact Assessments</b>
	Equality & Good Relations Implications:.
	Rural Needs Implications:
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Recommendation(s)</b>
5.1	To note the contents of the report, to progress with option C as detailed within section 3.10 of this report.
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Documents Attached &amp; References</b>
	Appendix A: Pricing Information and summary of Club/Organisation Usage

## **Appendix A**

As per the “Leisure Pricing April 2021 – March 2022”, the following rates apply:

Product	2020/21 Pricing	Concession	Commercial	VAT	Notes
<b>Memberships</b>					
Swimming Gala (25m, hourly rate) Sites: CLC, DLC	£77.50	N	N	SR SOL Possible	2020-21: DLC: £105 per 2 hours, CLC: £155 per 2 hours: increases as a result of incremental pricing approval.
Swimming Gala (50m, hourly rate) Site: GLC	£133.30	N	N	SR SOL Possible	
Small Pool (Hourly)	£33.00	N	Y	SR SOL Possible	
Local District Clubs: Main Pool	£47.40	N	Y	SR SOL Possible	
All Other Bookings: Main Pool	£160.00	N	Y	SR SOL Possible	New Product following review
Local District Clubs: 25m Lane	£7.90	N	N	SR SOL Possible	
All Other Bookings: 25m Lane	£25.00	N	N	SR SOL Possible	New product following review
Local District Clubs: 50m Lane	£15.80	N	N	SR SOL Possible	
All Other Bookings: 50m Lane	£40.00	N	N	SR SOL Possible	New product following review

### Summary of Club/Organisation Usage (Main Pools)

- F- FULL POOL
- P- PARTIAL POOL (LANES)

### Local Swimming Clubs usage (hrs)

SITE	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN
CLC	Local Swim Club 6.00-8.00pm (full pool) & 8.00-9.00pm (2 lanes)	Local Swim Club 6.00-8.00pm (full pool) & 8.00-9.00pm (2 lanes)	Local Swim Club 6.00-8.00pm (full pool) & 8.00-9.00pm (2 lanes)	Local Swim Club 6.00-8.00pm (full pool) & 8.00-9.00pm (2 lanes)	Local Swim Club 5.30-7.00pm (2 lanes)	Local Swim Club 8.00-9.00am (full pool) & 2.30-5.00pm (3 lanes)	Local Swim Club 9.00-10.00am (full pool)
DLC		Local Swim Club Tuesday 6.30pm – 9.00pm (Full Pool)		Local Swim Club Thursday 6.00pm – 8.00pm (Full Pool) 8.00pm – 8.30pm (Half Pool)	Local Swim Club Friday 7.00pm – 9.00pm (Full Pool)		
GLC		Local Swim Club 06.45-07.45 1 Hour 1 x 50m Double Lane		Local Swim Club 18.00-21.00 2 x 25m pools 6 x 25m Double Lanes (full pool)		Local Swim Club 14.15-15.15 1 Hour 1 x 25m Double Lanes 15.30-16.30 1 Hour/1 x 25m Double Lanes	Swim Club (outside District) Sundays 13.45-14.45 1 Hour 1 x 50m Double Lane

### Triathlon Clubs usage (hrs)

SITE	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN
CLC					Local Tri Club 7.00-8.00pm (full pool)		
DLC	Monday 8.00pm – 9.00pm (Full Pool)				Friday 6.00pm – 7.00pm (Half Pool)		

**SWIM ULSTER usage (hrs)**

SITE	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN
GLC			Wednesdays 18.00-21.00 3 Hours 3 x 25m Double Lanes				

*\*Ad Hoc bookings at Dungannon LC & CLC*

**Sub Aqua Club/ Pony Club usage (hrs)**

SITE	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN
CLC			Local Pony Club 6.45- 7.45pm (1 lane)				
DLC			Local Sub Aqua club 8pm to 9pm (full pool)				

**Special Olympic Clubs usage (hrs)**

SITE	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN
DLC					Friday 7.00pm – 9.00pm (Full Pool)		



<b>Report on</b>	Cahore Playing Fields, Draperstown		
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	14 <sup>th</sup> October 2021		
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Kieran Gordon, Head of Leisure		
<b>Contact Officer</b>	Sean Cavlin, Leisure and Business Development Manager		
<b>Is this report restricted for confidential business?</b>			Yes
If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon			No
			X

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	To provide information to Members an update on a leasing proposal for Cahore Playing Fields, Draperstown and seek approval to proceed following an expression of interest process.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	Previously in February 2021 (minute reference: D026/21), Members were advised of a formal request from Draperstown Celtic Football club (DCFC) for consideration to be given to upgrading the facilities at Cahore Playing Fields, Draperstown and also for Council to consider entering into a formal leasing arrangement with the club. Members approved that Officers should: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carry out a survey of Cahore Playing Fields and ascertain costs for potential works to the grass pitches</li> <li>• Engage with Council legal services and the landlord of Cahore Playing Fields to ascertain conditions associated with leasing and if permissible, engage with Land and Property Services (LPS) to ascertain market value for rental/leasing options.</li> </ul>
2.2	To date, Officers have carried out the following steps: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Achieved permission from the Landlord to enter into a sub-leasing arrangement</li> <li>• Engaged with Council legal services and received LPS valuations</li> <li>• Commissioned a public expression of interest process and carried out an evaluation/assessment</li> </ul>
2.3	Officers now present options for Members consideration on the proposed way forward and next steps.
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Report</b>
3.1	Previously in June 2021, a report noting progress to date on this matter was presented for Members information (minute reference: D112/21). Since then Officers have continued to engage with the clubs in the local Draperstown area and relevant stakeholders around the matter of leasing.
3.2	Council currently lease the lands at Cahore Playing Fields from the Herons Bros Limited and the original lease was varied in 2014 to a term of 50 years from 1 April 1994. The current lease runs until 2044 and the landlord has indicated a willingness to discuss a

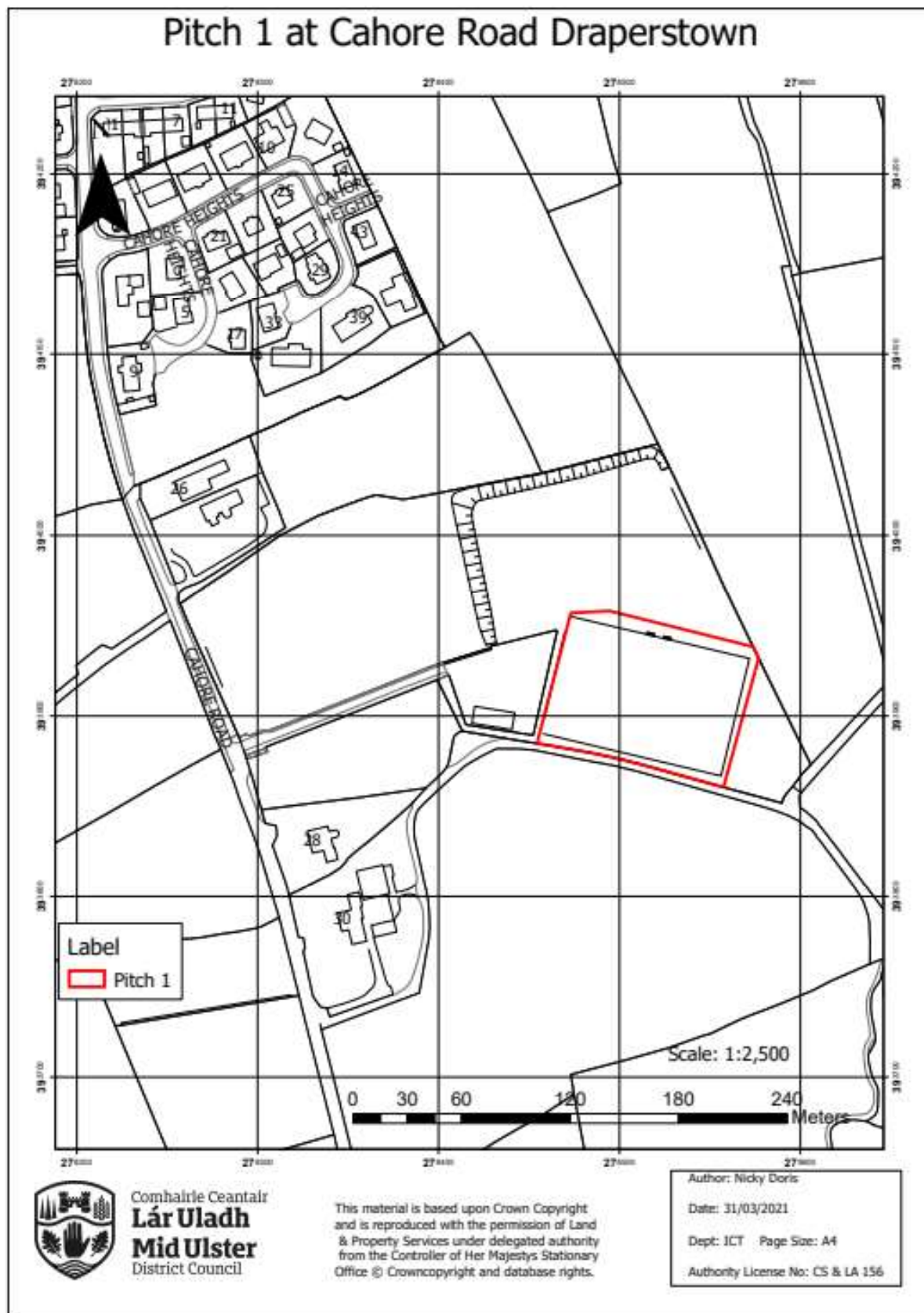
	<p>further extension if necessary to concur with any potential sub lease term. As per the terms of the lease, a rent review linked to RPI shall be carried out every 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the commencement date of the term.</p>
3.3	<p>LPS valuations for an annual rental fee were received for the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pitch 1 (currently lined for soccer) – £820 per annum</li> <li>• Pitch 2 (currently lined for soccer) - £625 per annum</li> <li>• Pitch 3 (currently lined for GAA) – £1,000 per annum</li> <li>• Pitch 1 and 2 combined (currently lined for soccer) – £1,600 per annum</li> <li>• Pavilion – £4,250 per annum</li> </ul>
3.4	<p>A public expression of interest was advertised week commencing 20 September 2021. Closing date for submission was 5 October 2021 @ 4pm. An evaluation was carried out on 6 October 2021.</p>
3.5	<p>Two submissions were returned before the closing date and time from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ballinascreen GAC (submitted an interest in Pitch 3 only)</li> <li>• Draperstown Celtic Football Club (submitted an interest in Pitch 1 and 2 only)</li> </ul>
3.6	<p>Included within the appendix are details on the evaluation criteria. Each submission was assessed using pre-qualification and selection criteria against the returned submission, and checked for compliance before proceeding to the next stage. Both submissions were scored and are recommended to proceed to the next stage.</p>
3.7	<p>As both submissions have indicated interest in separate parcels of land, there is no conflict arising and upon assessment of historical booking analysis over the past 5 years at Cahore Playing Fields, there appears to be no displacement issues for any other clubs should a lease progress with both parties for the respective lands.</p>
3.8	<p>Council Officers have held informal discussions with both submissions around the LPS valuations and both submissions have indicated acceptance of the LPS valuations for the pitches and have indicated this has been factored into their financial modelling from a sustainability perspective.</p>
3.9	<p>The pavilion was not made available for expressions of interest for potential leasing mainly due to potential multi-use of the site (ie. a scenario whereby one club took responsibility and the other club would have to seek permission/make bookings, payment,etc was not deem plausible). The pavilion has 4 x changing rooms and does lend itself to be used by both clubs therefore proposal for Council to continue to retain responsibility, manage bookings/payments,etc but enter into a separate keyholding agreement with both clubs with certain conditions attached and subject to annual review and ongoing monitoring. Having researched similar pavilions in other Council areas, it is therefore proposed that the annual charge for a keyholding agreement for use of the pavilion is set at £1000 per annum (ie. £500 each).</p>
3.10	<p>As part of the Pitches Strategy Development, non-technical assessments have been carried out at all Council pitches and it was highlighted that the Gaelic pitch and one of the soccer pitches are ranked “poor” in terms of quality and drainage. This is also backed up by user feedback. Therefore, an initial survey from a local contractor has indicated that work is required to solve drainage and surface quality issues at the site at an approx. cost of £55k. A brief summary of the estimated work and costs for pitch 2 and 3 is included below:</p>



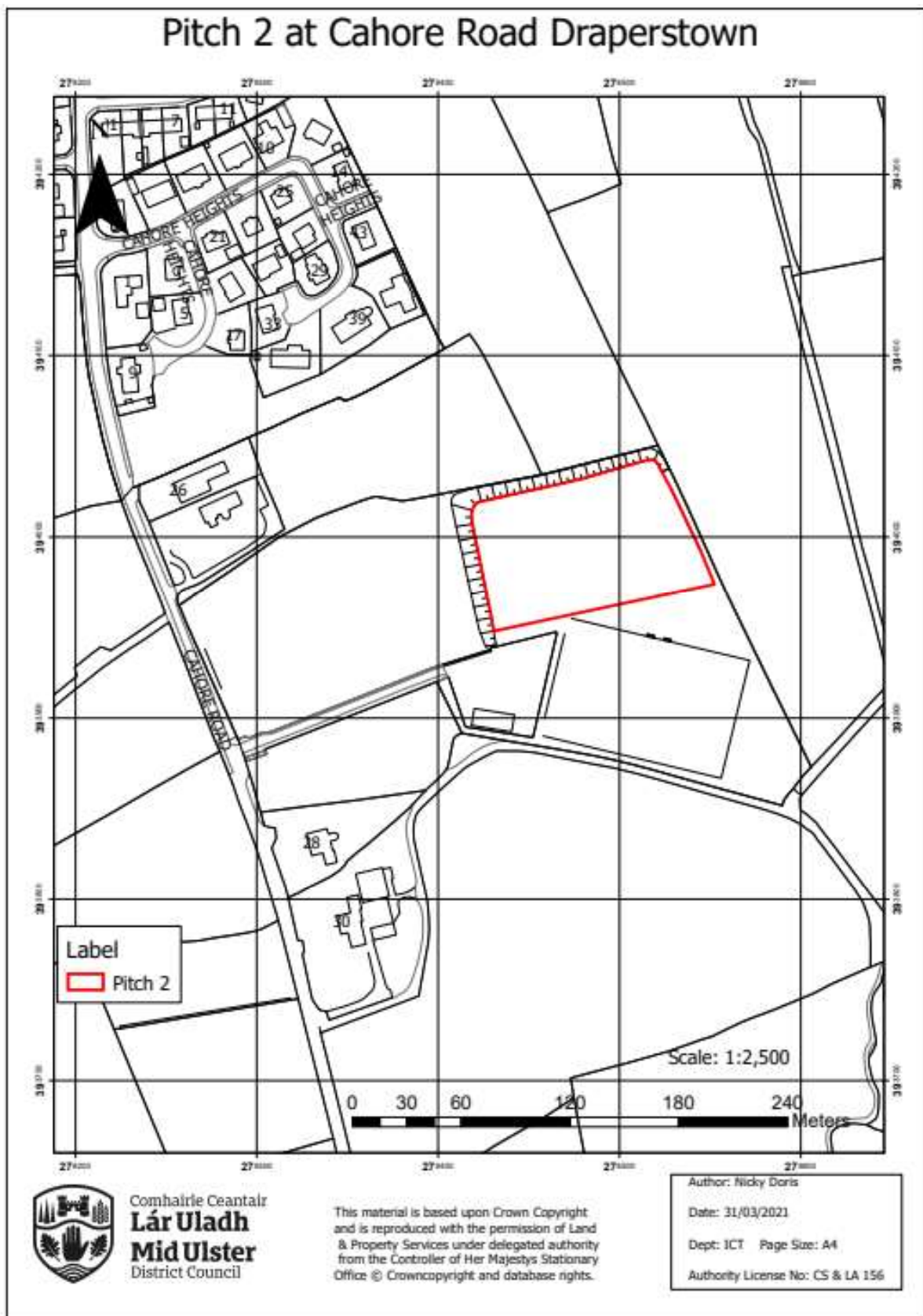
3.11	Members may be aware that the request to initiate leasing options for Cahore Playing Fields was approved prior to the commencement of the Councils Pitches Strategy Development. One of the objectives of the pitches strategy is to set out a 5 year plan (with outline recommendations to 10 years) with an indicative budget and make area specific recommendations and provide cost estimates in relation to a range of options. It is highly likely that Cahore Playing Fields will need investment in the immediate future to bring it up to an acceptable standard even if leasing does not progress.
3.12	Further analysis on financial considerations is outlined within the appendix. A business case has been prepared that explores if investment in the playing surface is value for money. The business case included within the appendix recommends that should investment proceed concurrently with the leasing proposal, there would be an anticipated saving achieved within 5 years and it would be anticipated that this proposed saving would then be re-invested elsewhere within the Property Services section to help any identified service pressures and enhance operational requirements.
3.13	It is therefore recommended that the costs for potential works to bring Cahore Playing Fields up to an acceptable standard is therefore referred to Policy and Resources Committee for consideration for a budget of £55,000 (to include a 10% contingency and/or fluctuations from a procurement process should a budget be approved).
3.14	Should a budget be approved, Members should note that it would be proposed to focus only on the Gaelic Pitch at this stage for improvement works. The rationale to support this focuses on Draperstown Celtic FC's current developmental aspirations for a floodlit 3G pitch where they propose to bid into future funding schemes (if/when available and notably the proposed NI Executive Sub Regional Stadia Programme for Soccer). Being able to demonstrate tenure by way of a long term lease is likely to be part of the eligibility criteria for any proposed future funding schemes and its unlikely local authorities will be able to apply for grant funding. It is therefore deemed not to be value for money to invest in required works to the soccer pitch at this stage until the outcome of the funding process is known. Officers have discussed this with club officials and they are in agreement with this approach should funding be approved.
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
<b>4.1</b>	<b>Financial, Human Resources &amp; Risk Implications</b>
	<p>Financial:</p> <p>Land and Property Services – assessment costs derived from existing revenue budgets (approx. £1,130)</p> <p>Public Expression of Interest Process – advertisement costs derived from existing revenue budgets (approx. £540)</p> <p>It is estimated that proceeding with leasing could yield a saving of approx. £12,000 per annum (ie. as a result of Council transferring responsibility of ongoing maintenance, grass cutting, line marking, keyholding/supervision arrangements for bookings,etc).</p> <p>Cahore Playing Fields Potential Works Costs – to be referred to Policy and Resources Committee for consideration for a budget of £55,000.</p> <p>Whilst this would necessitate an initial outlay of approx. £33.5k for pitch works, over 5 years this could result in approx. £40k savings versus current status quo scenario and it would be anticipated that this proposed saving would then be re-invested elsewhere within the Property Services section to help any identified service pressures and enhance operational requirements.</p>

	Human: Officer time.
	Risk Management: In line with Council policies and procedures where relevant.
<b>4.2</b>	<b>Screening &amp; Impact Assessments</b>
	Equality & Good Relations Implications:
	Rural Needs Implications:
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Recommendation(s)</b>
5.1	<p>To note the contents of this report and approve that Officers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proceed to progress to the next stage by drafting, agreeing and executing terms with the successful submissions in line with LPS valuations for pitch 1, 2 and 3 for a period of 25 years with option to extend</li> <li>• Proceed to engage with the landlord and extend the term where relevant to ensure agreements are co-terminus</li> <li>• Assign a rental value of £1,000 per annum to the pavilion for a separate keyholding agreement – subject to annual review and monitoring</li> <li>• Refer upgrade costs to the Policy and Resources Committee for a budget allocation of £55,000.</li> </ul>
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Documents Attached &amp; References</b>
	<p>Appendix 1: Maps</p> <p>Appendix 2: Cahore Playing Fields Appraisal and Expression of Interest</p>

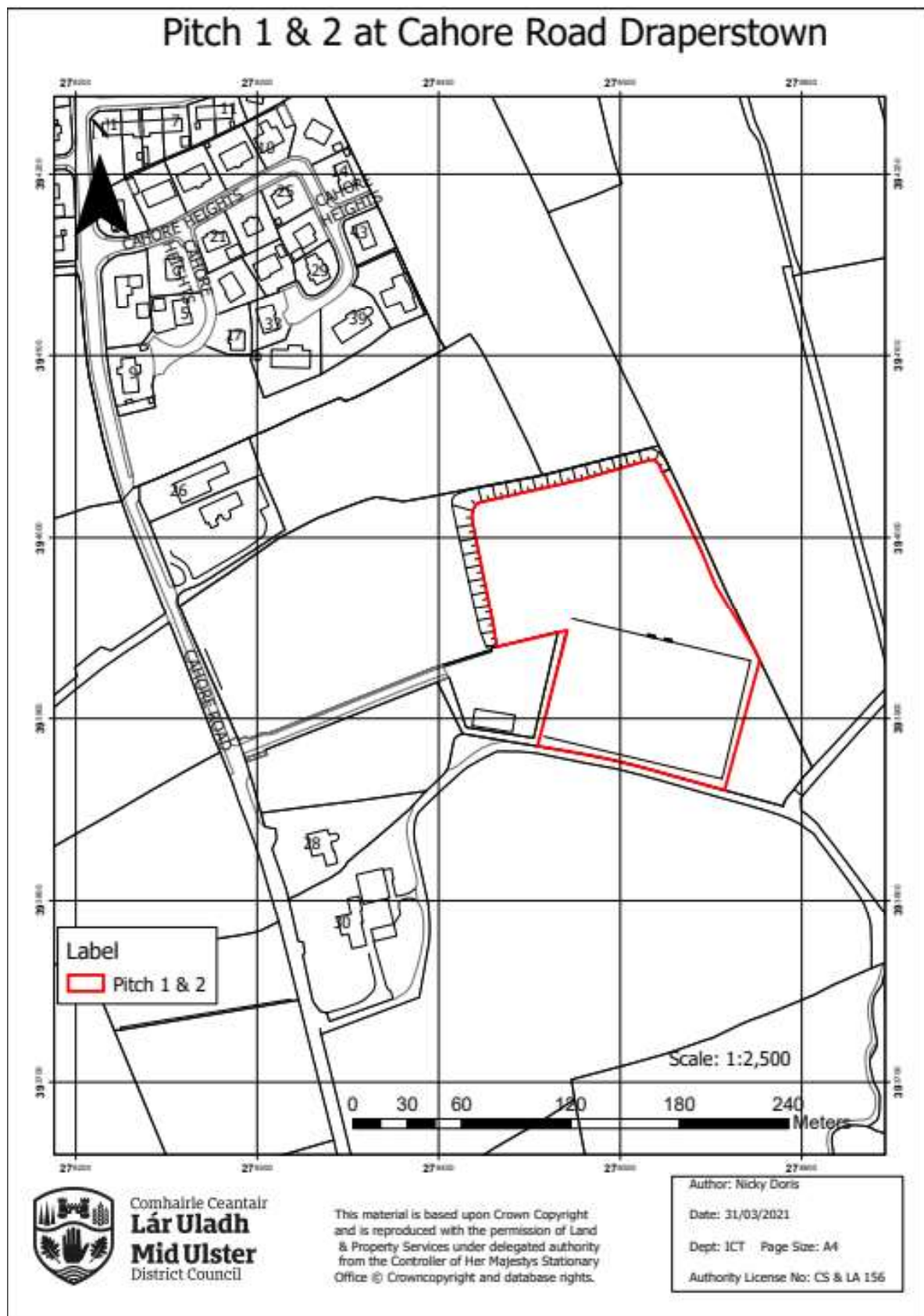
## APPENDIX 1



## APPENDIX 2

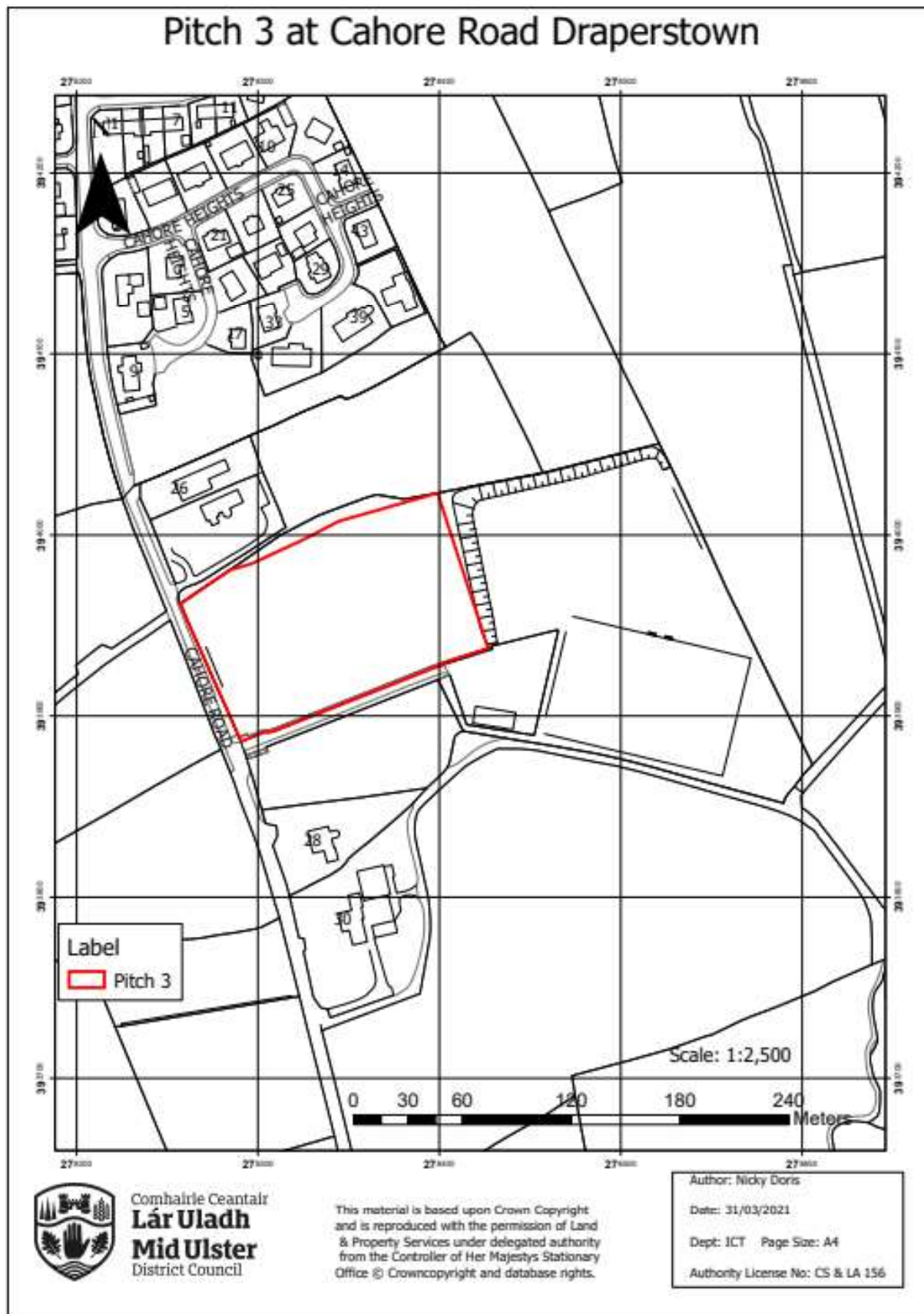


## APPENDIX 3

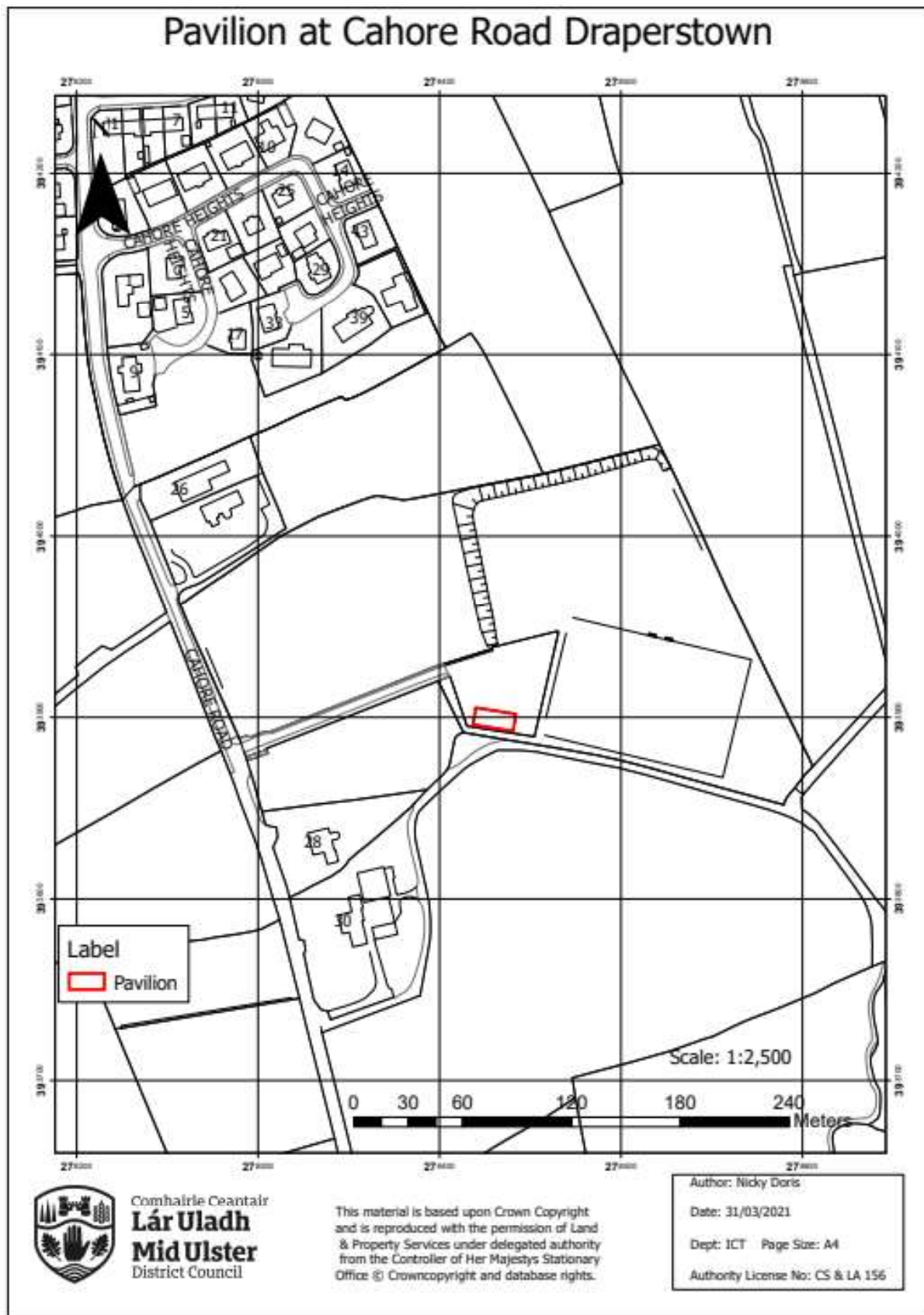




## APPENDIX 4



## APPENDIX 5





## **BUSINESS CASE FOR: -**

**Cahore Playing Fields**

## **Department: -**

**Leisure and Outdoor Recreation**

## **Date: -**

**September 2021**



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- 2.0 Introduction & Overview**
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- 6.0 Implications of not undertaking the proposal**
- 7.0 Alternatives**
- 8.0 Organisational Areas Affected**
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# **Business Case**

## **1. Executive Summary**

Previously in February 2021 (minute reference: D026/21), Members were advised of a formal request from Draperstown Celtic Football club (DCFC) for consideration to be given to upgrading the facilities at Cahore Playing Fields, Draperstown and also for Council to consider entering into a formal leasing arrangement with the club. Members approved that Officers should:

- Carry out a survey of Cahore Playing Fields and ascertain costs for potential works to the grass pitches
- Engage with Council legal services and the landlord of Cahore Playing Fields to ascertain conditions associated with leasing and if permissible, engage with Land and Property Services (LPS) to ascertain market value for rental/leasing options.

To date, Officers have carried out the following steps:

- Achieved permission from the Landlord to enter into a sub-leasing arrangement
- Engaged with Council legal services and received LPS valuations
- Commissioned a public expression of interest process and carried out an evaluation/assessment

This business case sets out options for consideration on the proposed way forward and next steps:

- (1) That Council seek to progress leasing options with the local clubs to enable empowerment, to build capacity, to help them develop and deliver their club objectives
- (2) Council invest in bringing the existing grass pitches up to an acceptable standard (namely pitch 2 and pitch 3)
- (3) That Council recognise that they may be ineligible for future strategic funding scheme(s) and recognise that local clubs who cannot demonstrate tenure by way of land ownership or long term leasing may be eligible to bid for and secure investment where the Council cannot
- (4) That should leasing progress and should future funding schemes may become available, that the local club has aspirations to develop a floodlit 3G for shared use within the community – a scheme that may not be possible for Council to deliver on its own.

The context for examining options is the Mid Ulster District Council Sports Facility Strategy 2018.

Council approved the Sports Facility Strategy in May 2018 which provided a framework for the future prioritisation, development and provision of sports facilities at a local level in order to meet identified community need, helping to increase participation, addressing health inequalities, and other local specific factors.

Through local engagement with various stakeholders, the development of Cahore Playing Fields will seek to provide effective partnerships with the public/local community and voluntary sector organisations which could bring benefits to the Draperstown area and wider District in a way that seeks to maximise sustainability, efficiency and community benefit.

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## 2. Introduction & Overview

Give a brief description of the proposal including the key objectives.

Mid Ulster District Council covers an area of 1714 km<sup>2</sup> and is the seventh largest of the eleven councils. According to NISRA – Mid-Year Estimate 2019, current population is 148,528 and the district has the fastest population growth in Northern Ireland, increasing by 18.4% from 2002 to 2018, compared with all the other Council areas and the Northern Ireland average of 10.3%. The population is projected to be 173,400 by 2037. Mid Ulster District Council is ranked 8th out of 11 district councils in terms of Multiple Deprivation indices.

Mid Ulster is home to more under 16's and fewer over 65's than the Northern Ireland average. A third of the population is based in and around the principal urban centres of Cookstown, Dungannon and Magherafelt and two smaller towns, Coalisland and Maghera. Only 56% of the population meets recommended physical activity levels of at least 150 minutes per week (2012 figures). Rates of adult and childhood obesity are increasing according to the most recent Northern Ireland Health Survey results.

Growing obesity levels suggest there is a need to facilitate increased participation, and to ensure availability of quality sports facilities, which are both affordable and accessible to the local community. It will be important to ensure that communities have equal access to sports and leisure facilities to ensure that levels of obesity do not continue to show significant increases.

As the population continues to grow, demand for access to quality sports facilities will increase.

The project here proposed is important in that the intention through sports development planning, proposed leasing to local clubs/groups and the proposed facility enhancements is to encourage more participation in sport and physical recreation.

As referenced in the Mid Ulster District Council Sports Facility Strategy 2018, it would be appropriate to support clubs and sports that will work together in the future e.g. in this case GAA and Soccer.

### **Current Position**

Currently, Mid Ulster District Council leases lands and pays an annual rent for Cahore Playing Fields, Draperstown and there are 1 x GAA and 2 x Soccer pitches along with an onsite changing pavilion. Council administer bookings for the facilities as and when required and invoice the bookees accordingly for use. Council has responsibility for the full cost of facility maintenance, insurance and provides a staffing resource for bookings where relevant. In recent times, the two main users of the facilities are Draperstown Celtic FC and Ballinascreen GAC. Ballinascreen GAC have their own complex approx. 2.5 miles from the Cahore complex containing 3 x grass pitches.

A summary of income is presented below:

Year	Income	
	Ballinascreen GAC	Draperstown Celtic Football Club
1 April 2018 - 31 Mar 2019	£1,350.51	£760.13
1 April 2019 - 31 Mar 2020	£1,536.60	£1,262.90
1 April 2020 -31 March 2021 <i>* Covid Closures Impacted Use</i>	£906.50	£407.60

Maintenance is carried out via the Council's Property Services section. A summary of annual expenditure on Cahore Playing Fields is presented below:

Item	Amount
Annual maintenance of verti draining, sanding, seeding and	Approx £14,000 per annum
Grass cutting 16 cuts per season at 3hrs per cut – 1 x operative and machine	
Line marking 10 x times per year - 3hrs x 2 operatives per time	
Staff cost - 32 hours of pitch inspections (incl mileage) per year plus 150 hours per year casual wages for matches/bookings	
Pavilion checks and associated works – statutory compliance, eg. Legionella, insurance, etc	
Rental costs (leasing with landlord)	£7,072.65 per annum
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>Approx £21,072.65 per annum</b>

Therefore, if an average assessment of income of approx. £2,400 per annum based on pre-covid bookings is factored in, Council net cost to operate Cahore Playing Fields is currently estimated at approx. £18,600 per annum.

### **Future Leasing Proposal**

Should approval for leasing be approved, it would be Council's intentions to enter into agreement(s) for a proposed 25 year term (with option to renew/extend).

In broad terms this would include a commitment for the sporting Club, collective or community organisation to:

- Carry out minor grounds and building maintenance (where relevant) for example pitch marking, grass cutting, ongoing maintenance, minor repairs, litter picking, inspections etc.
- General management of the site to ensure that members of the public, sporting

organisations and clubs continue to use the facility to full capacity, to include opening and closing and ensuring all relevant health and safety arrangements are in place.

- Continue to permit members of the public to access the property for passive recreational pursuits save for areas provided for dedicated sporting or community purposes.
- Management of bookings and events.
- Pavilion management (where relevant) to include opening and closing, upkeep of the fabric, cleaning and general management.
- Responsible for service charges such as water, electricity etc. (where relevant)
- Full ongoing inspections and maintenance of the lands (as determined by agreed boundary areas)
- Financial management of the various activities associated with the above.
- To arrange relevant insurance cover as specified by the Council (currently minimum of £5 million Public Liability Insurance – subject to review) and all necessary statutory approvals are in place and maintained.
- The above list is not exhaustive and may be subject to change.

It would be proposed Council would still have responsibility for the pavilion – eg. checks and associated works – statutory compliance, eg. Legionella, insurance, etc. A summary of anticipated income and costs are summarised below:

Item	Amount
Rental costs (leasing with landlord)	- £7,072.65 per annum (expenditure)
Pavilion checks and associated works – statutory compliance, eg. Legionella, insurance, etc	- £3,000 per annum (expenditure)
Leasing of Pitch 1 and 2 Combined	£1,600 per annum (income)
Leasing of Pitch 3	£1,000 per annum (income)
Annual Keyholder agreement for Pavilion	£1,000 per annum (income)
<b>Total Cost to Operate</b>	<b>Approx £6,472.65 per annum</b>

It is estimated that proceeding with leasing could yield a saving of approx. £12,000 per annum (ie. as a result of Council transferring responsibility of ongoing maintenance, grass cutting, line marking, keyholding/supervision arrangements for bookings,etc).

It would be anticipated that this a proposed saving would then be re-invested elsewhere within the Property Services section to help any identified service pressures and enhance operational requirements.

### Option 1 – Do Nothing

- Maintaining the status quo and continuing with current operations.
- This option could present several difficulties. These include:
  - Continued operational expenditure on maintenance and staffing costs to facilitate matches/bookings/inspections
  - Potential negative stakeholder feedback – ie. clubs unable to gain a sense of empowerment and build capacity within their community
  - Potential loss of future investment – eg. The clubs aspiration to leverage funding

into the local community for a proposed floodlit 3G pitch. Should funding be made available (notably the proposed NI Executive Sub Regional Stadia Programme for Soccer). Being able to demonstrate tenure by way of a long term lease is likely to be part of the eligibility criteria for any proposed future funding schemes and its unlikely local authorities will be able to apply.

Estimated costs are summarised below for this option, aggregated over the next 5 years, based on the current maintenance and income:

	<b>Aggregated Expenditure</b>	<b>Aggregated Income</b>
2022 - 2027	£120k	£14k
Net Cost to Operate 2022-2027	£106k	

### **Option 2 – Proceed with leasing and undertake works to improve pitch 3**

- Proceed with leasing as per recent expression of interest process and based on LPS valuations
- Carry out identified works to pitch 3 only

As part of the Pitches Strategy Development, non-technical assessments have been carried out at all Council pitches and it was highlighted that the Gaelic pitch and one of the soccer pitches are ranked “poor” in terms of quality and drainage. This is also backed up by user feedback. Therefore, an initial survey from a local contractor has indicated that work is required to solve drainage and surface quality issues at the site (notable pitch 2 and pitch 3).

Should a budget be approved, it would be proposed to focus only on pitch 3 only at this stage for improvement works (Gaelic Pitch). The rationale to support this focuses on Draperstown Celtic FC’s current developmental aspirations for a floodlit 3G pitch where they propose to bid into future funding schemes (if/when available and notably the proposed NI Executive Sub Regional Stadia Programme for Soccer). Being able to demonstrate tenure by way of a long term lease is likely to be part of the eligibility criteria for any proposed future funding schemes and its unlikely local authorities will be able to apply. It is therefore deemed not to be value for money to invest in required works to the soccer pitch at this stage until the outcome of the funding process is known. Officers have discussed this with club officials and they are in agreement with this approach.

Estimated costs are summarised below for this option, aggregated over the next 5 years, based on the proposing leasing approach and releasing a budget of approx. £33.5k for works on pitch 3:

	<b>Aggregated Expenditure</b>	<b>Aggregated Income</b>
Works to Pitch 3	Approx £33.5k	
2022 - 2027	Approx £50.5k	£18k
Net Cost to Operate	£66k	

### Option 3 – Proceed with leasing and undertake works to improve pitch 2 and 3

- Proceed with leasing as per recent expression of interest process and based on LPS valuations
- Carry out identified works to pitch 2 and 3

This option is similar to option 2 but with the added component of investment in works required for pitch 2 should funding opportunities not materialise for the clubs aspiration to bid for a future floodlit 3G.

Estimated costs are summarised below for this option, aggregated over the next 5 years, based on the proposing leasing approach and releasing a budget of approx. £55k for works on pitch 2 and 3:

	Aggregated Expenditure	Aggregated Income
Works to Pitch 2 and 3	Approx £55k	
2022 - 2027	Approx £50.5k	£18k
Net Cost to Operate 2022-2027	£87.5k	

### 3. Market analysis/Strategies?

Identify aspects of the Organisational Strategy.

At this stage of any proposed project it's important to consider its potential to complement and contribute to national, regional and local strategic approaches, should it proceed. Government and its agencies recognise the important role that community activity, sport and physical recreation can play in the development of people and the communities in which they live. This section looks at a range of national, regional and local strategic approaches that have a relevance to the proposed project and considers how the project might contribute to their objectives.

This proposed leasing of pitches to local clubs and also the investment in the playing surfaces is about developing people by encouraging active lifestyles through the provision of facilities. The Mid Ulster District Council Sports Facility Strategy 2018 audit evidences the Council's role in the provision of sports pitches and recreational spaces across the District therefore in the development of opportunities for active and healthier lifestyles. This proposed development comes at a time when an active lifestyle is recognised as vitally important in helping to reduce the incidence of a range of life-limiting diseases. It also makes significant contributions to at least two of the five Council strategic themes in its Corporate Plan 2020 – 2024:

- Theme 2: Service Delivery
- Theme 5; Communities

This proposed project should take cognizance of current Strategic plans:

- Mid Ulster District Council Corporate Plan 2020-2024
- Community Plan for Mid Ulster District Council 2017 “Our Community Plan, 10 year plan for Mid Ulster” – promoting healthy and active lifestyles, helping address mental health, health inequalities and greater community development engagement.
- Mid Ulster District Council Local Development Plan 2030
- Mid Ulster District Council Sports Facility Strategy 2018
- Mid Ulster District Council Open Space, Recreation and Leisure 2015
- Mid Ulster District Council Public Parks and Play Five Year Strategic Plan 2020 – 2025
- Mid Ulster District Council Sports Club Survey 2019
- The Northern Ireland Strategy for Sport & Physical Recreation 2009-2019 ‘Sport Matters’
- Sport Northern Ireland Corporate Plan 2015-2020
- Northern Ireland Executive: Active Ageing Strategy 2016-2021
- Active Living: No Limits 2016-2021
- Sport NI Wellbeing in Sport Action Plan 2019-2025
- Active Places Research Report (Bridging the Gap) 2009
- Active Places Research Report 2014 Update, Bridging the Gap
- Draft Programme for Government 2016 – 2021; NI Executive
- Together: Building a United Community (T:BUC); NI Executive

Taken together these strategies and their outcomes have been influenced by and reflect other strategies and policies. Not least of these is the draft ‘Programme for Government’ whose strategic outcomes address, amongst other things, the attainment of good health and confident and peaceful communities, targeting ‘those things that make real improvements to the quality of life for the citizen’.

**‘Sport Matters: The NI Strategy for Sport and Physical Recreation 2009-2019’; Department for Communities/ Sport NI**

The strategy sets out a shared vision of ‘a culture of lifelong enjoyment and success in sport. The case is made for ongoing investment in sport and physical recreation to ‘deliver a range of sporting outcomes and support the wider social agenda in areas such as education health, the economy and the development of communities over the period 2009-2019.’ Investment is directed towards three key areas:

(1) Participation (2) Performance and (3) Places

As with the community planning process a number of key principles underpin the strategy’s development that could easily be applied to this project:

- Empowering individuals, groups and communities;
- Responding to need;
- Partnership working based on consultation and stakeholder buy-in;
- Promoting good relations and working towards ‘A Shared Future’; and
- Focusing on outcomes.



The strategy highlights the importance of joined-up planning and partnership working at strategic levels as well as within delivery structures, adding that the pooling of resources, public and private is critical to achieving delivery.

Given the challenges posed variously by the economic downturn and local government reform since the strategy was published the targets for 'Places' have not been delivered in full.

However, one target is highly relevant to this project, that is:

*PL25: 'By 2019 to ensure that 90% of the population have quality accredited multi sports facilities that have the capacity to meet demand, within 20 minutes travel time.'*

The clarity of this target helps to inform the preparation of the Council's position for considered proposed developments such as that presented by this business case with relation to Cahore Playing Fields, Draperstown.

### **Mid Ulster District Council Sports Facility Strategy 2018**

The Mid Ulster District Council Sports Facility Strategy 2018 provides a framework to inform the priority for the development and provision of sports facilities at a local level, to meet identified community need in Mid Ulster. The strategy rationale is to develop a framework for future prioritisation and development of sports facilities based on identified need, increasing participation, addressing health inequalities and other local specific factors.

The focus of the 2018 strategy was facilities analysis on sports halls (4 courts or above – except those on education sites), pools of 20m length and above, health and fitness suites of 20 stations and above, Multi Use Games Areas (MUGA's), and full size Artificial Grass Pitches (AGP's).

This was one of 11 Local Strategies that were developed in the context of the wider NI Sports Facility Strategy.

The consultation process for this Strategy identified a number of key issues and priorities that relates to this proposed project at Cahore Playing Fields, Draperstown:

- *Based on club feedback there is a lack of all-weather pitches/3Gs, particularly for training. New provision should be considered/supported where it would replace poorer quality grass pitches and can be shared between a number of local clubs/organisations.*
- *Development of additional 3G pitches; the priority is for those based on education sites which offer community use and the opportunity for multi-facility hub development. There is a need for additional club –based provision but again this should be shared between clubs as a minimum to ensure sustainability and provide the opportunity for multi-facility hubs.*
- *Investment to improve existing AGPs/3G pitches e.g. floodlights, fencing, surfaces, infrastructure such as changing rooms, storage*

The consultation process for the 2018 strategy identified that several local stakeholders felt

there is a need for additional pitches within Mid Ulster District Council. The feedback on pitch provision, current and future, represents the majority of comments received. The consultation feedback identified the following:

- *There is a need for an additional grass rugby pitch, ideally this would be on a club site, but access to a pitch for competition games could be off site; the growth in the numbers of young players means more teams are playing more often, and existing pitch facilities do not have the capacity*
- *There is a need for additional synthetic training pitch facilities for rugby given the number of teams now in the club and the condition of existing grass pitches,*
- *Upgraded existing 3G pitch to complement existing sports and social facilities*
- *Development of floodlit synthetic surfaces provision for training*
- *3G pitches for local clubs*

The strategy makes a number of recommendation to address the issues and priorities identified and provides a framework within which to develop sports facilities in Mid Ulster and many of these outcomes support the proposed development at Cahore Playing Fields.

The proposal here for Cahore Playing Fields is that:

- (1) That Council seek to progress leasing options with the local clubs to enable empowerment, to build capacity, to help them develop and deliver their club objectives
- (2) Council invest in bringing the existing grass pitches up to an acceptable standard (namely pitch 2 and pitch 3)
- (3) That Council recognise that they may be ineligible for future strategic funding scheme(s) and recognise that local clubs who cannot demonstrate tenure by way of land ownership or long term leasing may be eligible to bid for and secure investment where the Council cannot
- (4) That should leasing progress and should future funding schemes may become available, that the local club has aspirations to develop a floodlit 3G for shared use within the community – a scheme that may not be possible for Council to deliver on its own.

### **Bridging the Gap – Active Places Research 2009**

Bridging the Gap – Active Places Research 2009, and its subsequent update in 2014, have also informed the Mid Ulster District Council Sports Facility Strategy 2018.

The 2009, 'Bridging the Gap' Active Places research report, produced by Sport NI (SNI), assessed the adequacy of existing sports facility provision (excluding education facilities), in Northern Ireland's 26 former and 11 proposed district council areas by comparison with National Facility Standards and/or the facility demand of potential users (determined by the Facilities Planning Model (FPM)).

'Bridging the Gap' established three general findings:

1. There is a significant shortfall in sports facility provision in Northern Ireland
2. The deficit in provision is not uniform
3. There are a number of areas for concern regarding provision, particularly in relation to quality, quantity, accessibility, condition, universal access and specification.

Although 'Bridging the Gap 2009' identified significant need for sports facilities throughout Northern Ireland, the research stopped short of identifying where new or refurbished sports facility provision should be developed or located. The Programme for Government, Together Building a United Community, the Corporate Plan of the Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure (DCAL), Sport Matters and SNI's Corporate Plan identify a number of Government priorities that set the direction for investment in sport and physical recreation, because sport contributes to a range of wider social, economic and cultural needs.

Sport improves community health and well-being and can contribute to reducing inequalities in child poverty and social deprivation, as well as ensuring equality of opportunity.

The 2014 Update to Bridging the Gap re-calculated need for a number of specific facility types, to illustrate progress in developing the sports facility infrastructure in NI; the analysis still identifies a significant shortfall in provision, however, particularly in terms of playing pitches.

Sport NI completed a 2014 update of figures quantifying all pitches in the 11 District Council Areas. They produced two tables covering Playing Pitches - Including education synthetic but excluding education grass pitches (Table below), which shows an assessment including both education synthetic and grass pitches.

DISTRICT COUNCIL	2011 POPULATION PROJECTION	PERCEIVED ACRES SHORTFALL (SNI STANDARD)	PITCHES REQUIRED I.E. SHORTFALL
COOKSTOWN	35,238	-4	-2
DUNGANNON	50,995	6	2
MAGHERAFELT	43,682	-17	-7
TOTAL			-7

Table 4.11 All Sites- Including Education synthetic and including Education Grass Pitches

DISTRICT COUNCIL	2011 POPULATION PROJECTION	PERCEIVED ACRES SHORTFALL (SNI STANDARD)	PITCHES REQUIRED
COOKSTOWN	35,238	-30	-12
DUNGANNON	50,995	-48	-19
MAGHERAFELT	43,682	-76	-31
TOTAL			-62

Source: Sports NI- 2014 update of the Active Places Research Report

The Sport NI 2009 updated Bridging the Gap assessment identifies a need in Mid Ulster for additional pitches (grass and all weather).

### **Local Development Plan**

The Council has prepared a Local Development Plan 2030 (LDP) and a Preferred Options Paper (POP) has been consulted on prior to the formal preparation of the LDP.

The Council has also developed a position paper of Open Space, Sport and Recreation.

The POP was prepared to consider issues that may have a direct impact on the district and set

out possible options to address them as well as the councils preferred option. In the context of Open Space, Recreation and Leisure the POP concludes that there is no immediate need to address pitch provision and therefore Development Plan intervention is not considered necessary in relation to the zoning of land at this time.

The Draft Plan Strategy sets out the Council's vision for planning the use of land and details the objectives, planning framework and planning policies that will be used to deliver the vision.

Responsibility for planning passed to the Council in April 2015 as a result of Local Government Reform and the Draft Plan Strategy is the first strategic approach to local development under the Council. The Draft Plan Strategy recognises it is set in the context of the Executive's Programme for Government commitments and priorities as well as the Regional Development Strategy 2035, the latter being the overarching spatial planning strategy for Northern Ireland.

Open Space, Recreation and Leisure' is one of five social policies whose objective is accommodating growth and creating places. The policy explains that applications under sub-policy 'Policy OS1 – Protection of Open Space' will be informed by the following policy statement:-

*'Development that results in the loss of open space shall not accord with the Plan irrespective of its physical condition and appearance.'*

*An exception can be made where it is demonstrated that it will bring substantial community benefits that outweigh the loss of the open space and it will have no significant detrimental impact on open space provision, amenity, character or biodiversity of an area.*

*Where appropriate, adequate compensatory measures to include provision for more intensive recreational use (3G sports pitches) on site or in other locations capable of serving the area will be given consideration. Compensatory measures should be comparable to that which is lost.'*

Benefits to the community include:-

*'More intensive recreation facilities such as all-weather pitches.'*

In Northern Ireland, the Department of the Environment recognises the need for provision of outdoor recreation space in Planning Policy Statement 8: Open Space, Sport and Outdoor Recreation. Section 5.15 states:

- "In large developments there may be a need to provide more formal outdoor recreation facilities such as playing pitches to meet the needs generated by the development. In such cases the Department will consult closely with the recreation department of local district Councils."*

It therefore could be argued that this proposed project at Cahore Playing Fields can assist with the strategic development of opportunities for increased participation in sport.

Planning policy is however necessary to ensure provision and protection of open space and also to ensure sports and recreation facilities coming forward are appropriately sited.

The Council's LDP Strategy for the retention, creation and promotion of Open Space, Recreation and Leisure is as follows:

- Provide policy for the protection and safeguarding of public open space;

- Require the provision of open space in housing developments and where appropriate equip it for children's play;
- Facilitate large scale leisure on opportunity sites within or near town centers and smaller scale elsewhere within settlement limit;
- Protect environmental open spaces for example parks, gardens and linear open spaces such as pedestrian and cycle routes/walkways and river corridors that have open space value;
- Local Policies Plan designate important open spaces to be protected, zone new sites and offer protection through other means such as Local Landscape Policy Areas.

Source: *Position Paper Seven Open Space, Recreation and Leisure 2 June 2015*

#### 4. Links to Council Policy/Strategic Context

Identify aspects of the Divisional/Unit Plan that are addressed.

##### **Mid Ulster Community Plan 2017-2027; Mid Ulster District Council**

The Council's vision for Community Planning reflects the plan's 5 themes, three of which have a particular resonance with the proposed project at Cahore Playing Fields:-



The community in Mid Ulster, and more specifically the Draperstown area, is at the very heart of this proposed project at Cahore Playing Fields.

It could be argued that increased participation will follow by implementing this proposed project at Cahore Playing Fields and this will contribute to the Community Plan's health and wellbeing

theme. It could be argued that local sports clubs will be able to grow their membership through better playing surfaces and should the local club be successful in obtaining future investment for a floodlit 3G it should enhance opportunities as the lack of a local floodlit all weather synthetic training facilities is a constraint on membership – and more volunteers will be needed to assist in servicing the growing clubs.

The strategic context for reviewing the adequacy of provision of pitches is quite simply to provide better quality facilities for a better quality experience, so encouraging more participation for all, including those in formalised sports and those not in formalised sports..

The particular challenge is to make best use of resources and to do so through partnerships that can deliver more by working together than working in isolation.

Mid Ulster District Council's vision within the Corporate Plan 2020 – 2024 reflects this:

- *To be at the heart of our community.*

This proposed project at Cahore Playing Fields is about developing people by encouraging active lifestyles through the provision of facilities.

The Mid Ulster District Council Sports Facility Strategy 2018 audit evidences the Council's role in the provision of sports pitches and recreation space therefore in the development of opportunities for active and healthier lifestyles. This proposed development comes at a time when an active lifestyle is recognised as vitally important in helping to reduce the incidence of a range of life-limiting diseases. It also makes significant contributions to at least two of the five Council strategic themes in its Corporate Plan 2020 – 2024:

- Theme 2: Service Delivery
- Theme 5: Communities

Whilst the project here proposed clearly fits with delivery, it is first and foremost about people, in that it will create opportunities for active recreation that bring people and groups together, facilitating individuals' growth and the development of communities with positive outcomes for people's health and wellbeing. In providing and enhancing the quality of sports facilities the Council is effectively a community encourager.

The Recreation and Youth Service (Northern Ireland) Order 1986 states that "Each district council shall secure the provision for its area of adequate facilities for recreational, social, physical and cultural activities and for that purpose may, either alone or together with another district council or any other person, establish, maintain and manage any such facilities". Furthermore, the Order 1986 goes on to state that "a district council shall, in carrying out its functions, have regard to the facilities provided by other district councils or by other persons. A district council may provide a facility for the whole of Northern Ireland or for an area or areas outside its own area".

## 5. Assessment of Benefits/Need

What are the opportunities and benefits for the Organisation and User(s)?

This proposed project comes at a time when an active lifestyle is recognised as vitally important in helping to reduce the incidence of a range of life-limiting diseases. It also makes significant contributions to at least two of the five Council strategic themes in its Corporate Plan 2020 – 2024:

- Theme 2: Service Delivery
- Theme 5: Communities

In addition, linked to Mid Ulster District Council's Corporate Plan 2020 – 2025, while each of the strategic themes has a clear focus and purpose, there are also a number of corporate commitments which are not tethered to one area of work, but are common to all and will be realised via this proposed strategy:

- Promoting Equality of Opportunity and Good Relations
  - *“Beyond a duty of compliance with our equality scheme, we aim to mainstream the promotion of Equality of Opportunity and Good Relations throughout the organisation, actively seeking out ways in which to enhance those opportunities and to build positive relations between and among the diverse communities across Mid Ulster.”*
  - *Working in partnership our Good Relations and Community Development Teams to further promote shared spaces across Mid Ulster in all our towns and villages to seek to bring people together and maximise resources.*
- Continuously improving our services
  - *“Whether through our formal Corporate Improvement Objectives and service-specific Performance Improvement Plans or the small, regular, routine changes which we make to services through feedback, we are committed to continuously improving what we do and how we do it.”*
  - *Working in partnership with our outreach sports and leisure teams, Health and Wellbeing teams to promote active and health lifestyles for all.*
- Designing and delivering our services sustainably
  - *“From large-scale investment projects to new or changing service models, we place a value on ensuring that what we do not only meets current needs, but is designed and delivered to be sustainable in the longer-term, ensuring the needs of future generations are uncompromised.”*
- Working collaboratively across the public, private, community and voluntary sector to achieve shared objectives
  - *“Collaborative working is key to delivering successful outcomes for local people. The Council is committed to embracing the opportunities to work with a range of other organisations on issues, projects and plans as they relate to every theme, priority and aspect of our work.”*

It is recognised, that good quality open/green space can help address issues of poverty, health, education and social interaction and therefore significantly enhance the lives of those who live in

the area. This proposed at Cahore Playing Fields could be argued as having great potential in being a key contributor to enhancing opportunities and could directly impact on the lives of people on health physical and mental wellbeing, education, social interaction and pride in their community place.

### **Community/Sporting Group Engagement**

The purpose of this engagement was to understand the current issues and explore attitudes towards this and attempt to find out what indicative use may be if the facility was enhanced – either by Council investment in the grass pitches (specifically pitch 2 and 3), potential impact leasing could have and also should leasing be successful, if that would provide the local club the platform to make a bid for future investment (ie. floodlit 3G) that otherwise may not have the potential to be delivered at its likely Council would be ineligible to apply for funding and may not have the resources to deliver it on his own. As part of the engagement process with local community/sporting groups, information was requested on potential use if the facility were to be constructed.

The following stakeholders were asked for feedback:

- Ballinascreen GAC
- Draperstown Celtic Football Club
- Workspace NI
- Local Councillors
- Heron Brothers Limited (Landlord)

Engagement focused on the following themes:

- Number of adult and under age teams
- Normal location for club outdoor activities (ie. club owned, hire of other pitches,etc)
- If grass pitch enhancements were to be carried out and if the local club were able to use leasing (proof of tenure) to bid and achieve funding for a floodlit 3G, how and what would be their specific need of use (ie. Alleviate grass pitch congestion / usage / increase numbers of adult/junior teams
- Prediction of anticipated hours per week? (eg. daytime / evening / weekend / Spring / Summer / Autumn / Winter)
- Analysis of bookings at other nearby Council facilities – ie. Meadowbank Sports Arena

### **Summary**

- Available space and the limitations of current grass pitches at Cahore Playing Fields was the main issue – particularly weather issues and over reliance on grass pitches and unpredictability of availability for grass pitches that could result in planned activities being cancelled/postponed
- Indication that this proposed development would help them with aspiration of development of new activities and possible new youth teams being established.



## 6. Implications of not undertaking Proposal

What problems will arise if the proposal does not go ahead?

By not taking forward this proposal, it supports a status quo decision, which does not allow for maximising Council's current recreational assets for the wider benefit of all within the Draperstown area.

By not taking forward this proposed development, then this would not seek to target the analysis with the following papers:

- The Bridging the Gap – Active Places Research 2009, and its subsequent update in 2014, along with the Mid Ulster District Council Sports Facility Strategy 2018 evidence.

By not taking forward this proposal for leasing, it may make future facility development/enhancement unobtainable as due to current pressures on budgets and resources, Council may not be in a position to develop enhanced facilities that the local community desire – ie. floodlit 3G – should a future funding scheme become available, its likely Councils will be ineligible to apply and if one of the criteria for funding is for local clubs/groups to demonstrate ownership or long term tenure, should leasing not progress then there is a potential that future investment opportunities may be lost.

## 7. Alternatives/Describe the options available

What are the alternatives/options to undertaking the proposed development?

Council currently have Maghera Leisure Centre (approx. 7.2 miles and approx. 15 min drive) and the Meadowbank Sports Arena in Magherafelt (approx. 9.5 miles and approx. 20 min drive).

### Potential for Displacement

The potential for this proposed leasing to local clubs, investment in upgrading 2 x grass pitches and the aspiration for the local club to leverage in investment for a future floodlit 3G to detract from other facilities (i.e., people/groups cease using other facilities in favour of the new facility) could be argued that it is low risk.

There are two elements of displacement to consider:

- (i) Displacement from other sports clubs in the area
- (ii) Displacement from similar facilities in the area

Considering the first element above, the proposed project here is an enhancement of existing facilities. There is a long history of sports club participation in the locality of Draperstown with well-established memberships that are invariably clearly defined according to home location. The proposed project is therefore not expected to cause movement of membership between clubs but rather allow for growth of each of the resident/anchor clubs with access to an improved facility.

Considering the second element above, whilst Maghera Leisure Centre has a floodlit 3G and Meadowbank Sports Arena has 3G provision, engagement and feedback with local clubs/groups suggest that they see Cahore Playing Fields as their only viable option. Use of the other facilities is predominately when the grass pitches are unplayable or when they are invited to the other locations by other teams to play matches.

## 8. Organisational Areas Affected

What staff, processes and systems will be affected by the proposed development?

- Staff engagement and facilitation of stakeholder engagement – can be derived via existing resources
- Infrastructure/databases/communication capabilities – can be derived via existing resources
- Working group, across departments, to ensure an integrated approach to deliver to meet the wider corporate targets for leisure and sport, health and wellbeing, community development, good relations

## 9. Risks

What risks are involved in implementing the proposal and how will they be managed?

- Project funding risks.
- Lack of clarity of roles/ responsibilities for the project.
- Failure to deliver address identified needs and deliver project objectives
- Stakeholder resistance to proposed development

## 10. Investment Costs

What is the summary of capital investment costs for the proposed development?

### a) Staff

- N/A

### b) Training

- N/A

### c) Equipment, etc

- N/A

### d) Other

- Indicative capital investment estimate of up to £55k for grass playing surface enhancements (pitch 2 and pitch 3). Initial release would be approx. £33.5k for pitch 3 only and the additional £21.5k would only be required to enhance the grass pitch 2 only if the local clubs bid for investment to construct a floodlit 3G is unsuccessful

Item	Amount
Rental costs (leasing with landlord)	- £7,072.65 per annum
Pavilion checks and associated works – statutory compliance, eg. Legionella, insurance, etc	- £3,000 per annum
Leasing of Pitch 1 and 2 Combined	£1,600 per annum
Leasing of Pitch 3	£1,000 per annum
Annual Keyholder agreement for Pavilion	£1,000 per annum
<b>Total Cost to Operate</b>	<b>Approx £6,472.65 per annum</b>

Estimated costs are summarised below for this option, aggregated over the next 5 years, based on the proposing leasing approach and releasing a budget of approx. £33.5k for works on pitch 3:

	Aggregated Expenditure	Aggregated Income
Works to Pitch 3	Approx £33.5k	
2022 - 2027	Approx £50.5k	£18k
Net Cost to Operate 2022-2027	£66k	

Estimated costs are summarised below for this option, aggregated over the next 5 years, based on the proposing leasing approach and releasing a budget of approx. £55k for works on pitch 2 and 3:

	Aggregated Expenditure	Aggregated Income
Works to Pitch 2 and 3	Approx £55k	
2022 - 2027	Approx £50.5k	£18k
Net Cost to Operate 2022-2027	£87.5k	

## 11. Running Costs

What are the costs to run this proposal as a service/system?

The above would be presented as indicative costs and subject to consideration and approval by Members and included within the Council's Capital Framework therefore at this stage indicative costs won't be completely established until a procurement process is carried out.

Whilst this would necessitate an initial outlay of approx. £33.5k for pitch works, over 5 years this could result in approx. £40k savings versus option 1 "do nothing" and it would be anticipated that this proposed saving would then be re-invested elsewhere within the Property Services section to help any identified service pressures and enhance operational requirements.

## 12. Payback/NPV (Net Present Value)

How and on what timescales will the projected costs be recouped as savings or benefits?

Whilst there would not be an immediate payback on the initial outlay of the investment for the strategy developed, it is anticipated that this proposed development comes at a time when an active lifestyle is recognised as vitally important in helping to reduce the incidence of a range of life-limiting diseases. It is anticipated that there will be non-monetary benefits with the development for the future prioritisation, development and provision of sports facilities at a local level in order to meet identified community need, helping to increase participation, addressing health inequalities, and other local specific factors.

## 13. Timescales/Phasing

What are the timescales and deadlines for the proposed development?

It is estimated that if this business plan concept is approved, this will move forward as part of the overall leasing development which would anticipate be concluded within 6-9 months subject to agreement with both sets of legal parties. Investment in pitch 3 would be anticipated to be carried out within 6-9 months subject to Council approval, procurement and contractor timeframes.

In terms of the local clubs aspirations to seek to use their leasing to leverage in funding (should it become available) and seek to develop a floodlit 3G, it is not yet known what timescales could be attributed to this.

## 14. Conclusion

Proceed with option 2 as outlined above. Whilst this would necessitate an initial outlay of approx. £33.5k for pitch works, over 5 years this could result in approx. £40k savings versus option 1 “do nothing” and it would be anticipated that this proposed saving would then be re-invested elsewhere within the Property Services section to help any identified service pressures and enhance operational requirements.

The project potentially delivers a range of benefits through provision of extended and new opportunities for participation in sport and physical activity for the community of Draperstown. These opportunities and the resultant benefits will be realised through a combination of facility provision and sports development programming.

## 15. Recommendations

Has the proposal been approved, rejected, deferred etc. and do any conditions apply?

Proceed with option 2 as outlined above.

<b><i>Developed by</i></b>	<b><i>Post</i></b>	<b><i>Date</i></b>
Kieran Gordon	Head of Leisure	06.10.2021
<b><i>Authorised by</i></b>	<b><i>Post</i></b>	<b><i>Date</i></b>
Anne-Marie Campbell	Director of Leisure and Outdoor Recreation	06.10.2021
<b>Name of Assigned Project Manager</b>		<b>Date</b>



Invitation for Expression of Interest from  
**Sports Clubs to lease Cahore Playing Fields**

Mid Ulster District Council is inviting Expressions of Interest from any Sports Clubs who wish to lease a pitch(es) at Cahore Playing Fields, Draperstown for sporting purposes only.

Expressions of interest will only be accepted from fully constituted, not for profit sports clubs playing sports that are recognized by Sport NI, and which are located in the Mid Ulster District Council area.

The enclosed application form must be completed in full.

Expressions of interest are to be submitted in writing for the attention of the Business Support Manager, Leisure & Outdoor Recreation, Mid Ulster District Council, Cookstown Office, Burn Road, Cookstown, BT80 8DT or via email to [leisure@midulstercouncil.org](mailto:leisure@midulstercouncil.org) by **4pm on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2021**.

Council is currently seeking expressions of interest only and there is no commitment on any party to move any proposal forward, and the Council may cease the process at any point. Any submissions are done so at the proposer's risk, and the Council will accept no responsibility for any expenses incurred.

**Application Form:****Expression of Interest to lease designated land within Mid Ulster District Council.**

<b>Organisation/Club Name</b>	
<b>Contact Name</b>	
<b>Position within Organisation/Club</b>	
<b>Address</b>	
<b>Postcode</b>	
<b>Telephone Number</b>	
<b>Email</b>	

**Details:**

Mid Ulster District Council are currently seeking Expressions of Interest from any Sports Clubs who wish to lease a pitch(es) at Cahore Playing Fields, Draperstown for sporting purposes only.

Expressions of interest will only be accepted from fully constituted, not for profit sports clubs playing sports that are recognized by Sport NI, and which are located in the Mid Ulster District Council area.

**Location & Description**

The subject lands are located along the Cahore Road, less than a mile south of Draperstown village and less than 9 miles northwest of its nearest major town, Magherafelt. Surrounding land use is mainly agricultural with a small mix of single residential sites on the periphery of the village.

The Property is a community recreational centre which is currently occupied by Mid Ulster District Council by way of a 50 year lease which commenced 1st April 1994 and Land Registry confirmed that the entire folio measures 4.07 ha / 10.05715 acres which currently comprises two grass soccer pitches, one GAA grass pitch and a pavilion which was constructed in 2005 measures 212sqm (GEA).

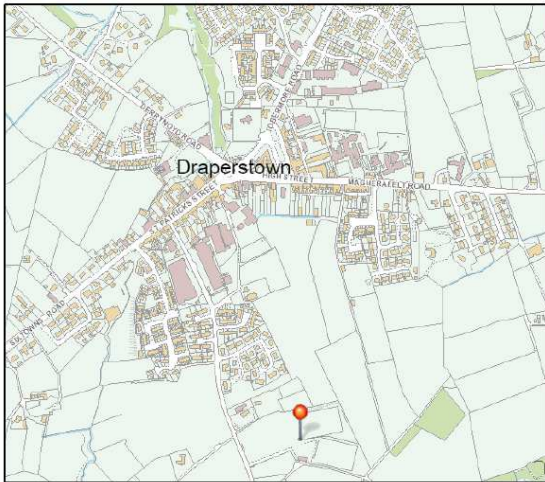
The site is fully fenced and the floodlit carpark has provision for 66 cars.

**Areas**

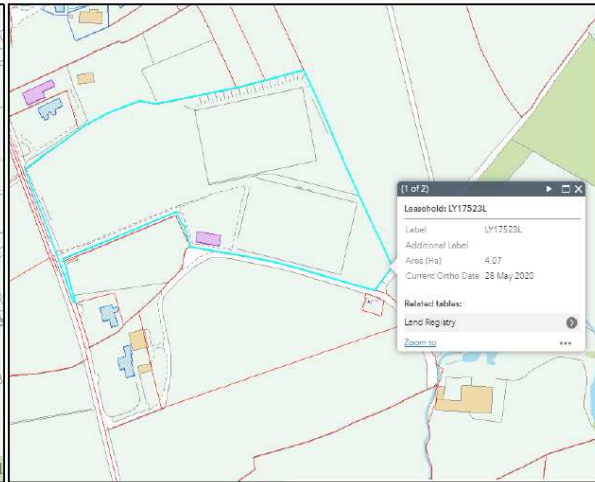
Maps and areas are enclosed for information purposes and each area are assumed to be correct as follows;

- Pitch 1 – 2.05 acres
- Pitch 2 - 2.08 acres
- Pitch 3 – 3.39 acres
- Pitch 1 and 2 combined – 4.54 acres
- Pavilion – 0.05 acres
- Overall site in total – 10.06 acres

## Maps and Photographs



Location Map



Overview of folio as per LPS IMA



Overview of folio as per LPS IMA

### **Proposed Leasing Terms**

Council will be guided by Land and Property Services for valuations of each of the above areas. It would be Council's intentions to enter into agreement(s) for a proposed 25 year term (with option to renew/extend).

In broad terms this would include a commitment for the sporting Club, collective or community organisation to:

- Carry out minor grounds and building maintenance (where relevant) for example pitch marking, grass cutting, ongoing maintenance, minor repairs, litter picking, inspections etc.
- General management of the site to ensure that members of the public, sporting organisations and clubs continue to use the facility to full capacity, to include opening and closing and ensuring all relevant health and safety arrangements are in place.
- Continue to permit members of the public to access the property for passive recreational pursuits save for areas provided for dedicated sporting or



community purposes.

- Management of bookings and events.
- Pavilion management (where relevant) to include opening and closing, upkeep of the fabric, cleaning and general management.
- Responsible for service charges such as water, electricity etc. (where relevant)
- Full ongoing inspections and maintenance of the lands (as determined by agreed boundary areas)
- Financial management of the various activities associated with the above.
- To arrange relevant insurance cover as specified by the Council (currently minimum of £5 million Public Liability Insurance – subject to review) and all necessary statutory approvals are in place and maintained.

The above list is not exhaustive and may be subject to change.

There is an on-site changing pavilion and while that is not currently subject to expressions of interest for leasing, there may be an opportunity for further discussions with Council on agreements for use subject to satisfactory agreement by all parties.

The enclosed application form must be completed in full.

Expressions of interest are to be submitted in writing for the attention of the Business Support Manager, Leisure & Outdoor Recreation, Mid Ulster District Council, Cookstown Office, Burn Road, Cookstown, BT80 8DT or via email to [leisure@midulstercouncil.org](mailto:leisure@midulstercouncil.org) by **4pm on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2021**.

Council is currently seeking expressions of interest only and there is no commitment on any party to move any proposal forward, and the Council may cease the process at any point. Any submissions are done so at the proposer's risk, and the Council will accept no responsibility for any expenses incurred.

**Please tick from the list below which area you are expressing an interest in:**

Area	Tick
Pitch 1 (currently lined for soccer)	
Pitch 2 (currently lined for soccer)	
Pitch 3 (currently lined for GAA)	

Applicants must complete:

- Basic Eligibility
- Qualitative Assessment (100%)

For each of the sections below, please include your response and supporting details. The space provided under each section may be expanded to allow your submission to provide further details.

Where you feel it is appropriate to provide any further documents/supporting information, please make sure this is clearly labelled as per the criteria reference when submitting your return.

Stage 1: Basic eligibility criteria		
Criteria	Details to be evidenced	Office Use: Pass/Fail
1.1 Is a constituted group with not-for-profit objectives?	Details/evidence to be provided. May include for example, registered charity number,etc	
1.1 Applicant Response:		
1.2 Open membership?	Confirmation that the applicant is open to all to include non-participants, male, female, adults, children, people with disabilities and ethnic minorities.	
1.2 Applicant Response:		

1.3 Can meet financial obligations?	Can demonstrate they can demonstrate sustainability and carry out all the requirements to include ongoing rent, maintenance, insurance,etc and the financial model is demonstrated to be sustainable with evidence of income/grants,etc.	
<b>1.3 Applicant Response:</b>		
Insurances (public, building)?	Can demonstrate they can meet the specified insurance requirements.	
<b>1.4 Applicant Response:</b>		
Applicant is based in Mid Ulster District Council	Can demonstrate main participant base within the Mid Ulster District Council area.	
<b>1.5 Applicant Response:</b>		

**Note for applicants:** At evaluation stage, should the evaluation panel determine that an applicant's submission obtains a "fail" assessment for any of the above basic eligibility criteria, then the application will be automatically disqualified at this stage.

**Note for applicants:** At evaluation stage, should the evaluation panel determine that an applicant's submission obtain a "pass" assessment for all elements of the above eligibility criteria then the application will proceed to stage 2 assessment.

Where you feel it is appropriate to provide any further documents, supporting information, please make sure this is clearly labelled as per the criteria reference when submitting your return.

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2.2: Capacity and willingness to share the facility with other community organisations	Proposals for proper upkeep of the physical environment. Examples of partnerships (past or expected), current and/or intended use of facilities by other groups, letters of support, etc	<b>20%</b>
<b>2.2 Applicant Response:</b>		
2.3: Viability and capacity to manage a community facility including financial capacity to meet operational costs and development commitments.	<p>Financial standing and evidence of sustainability of potential lessee.</p> <p>A requirement to be registered with a governing body.</p> <p>Current key holder duties, evidence of operating and managing a sports facility, club accounts (past 3 years), policies etc.</p> <p>Proposals to manage the Land or Property Management Agreement. Past Performance/Track record of managing a club and its resources at community level.</p>	<b>15%</b>
<b>2.3 Applicant Response:</b>		

2.4: Governance, and management structure, sports development.	Strategic/development plan, other evidence such as record of competition achievements, club history document, club minute book, Child Protection Policy, Constitution, Coaches/Player Code of Conduct, Equality Policy,etc	<b>15%</b>
<b>2.4 Applicant Response:</b>		
2.5: Social Value - Evidence that the grant of tenure will be in the public's interest and that the proposed activities will increase sport, recreation and/or community participation level.	A Development Plan for the leased areas to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proposals on how the club will develop members/players numbers, teams and standard of leagues played in;</li> <li>• Current examples of working with target groups, strategic development plan, letter of support etc.</li> <li>• Proposals for increased participation of local communities</li> <li>• Access arrangements to be detailed for informal public uses.</li> <li>• Proposals which promote shared use and inclusivity and which demonstrate wider community benefit.</li> </ul>	<b>20%</b>
<b>2.5 Applicant Response:</b>		

**Scoring Methodology:**

To ensure consistency, the evaluation panel will mark the above sub-categories according to this scale:

<b>Assessment</b>	<b>Score 0-5</b>	<b>Reasons to award this score based on evidence provided and against the criteria include</b>
Unacceptable	0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The response fails to meet the methodology requirements</li> <li>▪ There is a high risk that this applicant, in this sub category, could jeopardise the success of a project if awarded.</li> <li>▪ No evidence provided against this sub category</li> </ul>
Reservations	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The response in this category is compliant, but with reservations.</li> <li>▪ Weakness and/or risks in this methodology outweigh strengths.</li> </ul>
Compliant	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Compliant response in this sub category, but lacks sufficient detail to award a higher mark.</li> <li>▪ Strengths in this methodology outweigh weaknesses.</li> </ul>
Good	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Indicates a convincing response in this sub category with no weaknesses.</li> <li>▪ Methodology demonstrates that the applicant will provide a good quality service.</li> </ul>
Very Good	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Indicates a very good response in this category with no weaknesses.</li> <li>▪ Methodology demonstrates that the applicant will provide very good quality service.</li> </ul>
Excellent	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Indicates an excellent methodology with no weaknesses.</li> <li>▪ Methodology demonstrates that this applicant will provide an outstanding service.</li> </ul>

**Please sign your completed application**

I confirm that the information I have given on this application form is accurate and complete. I confirm that I have the authority on behalf of my organisation/club to complete and submit this application. I understand that Council is currently seeking expressions of interest only and there is no commitment on any party to move any proposal forward, and the Council may cease the process at any point. I understand that any submissions are done so at the proposer's risk, and the Council will accept no responsibility for any expenses incurred.

I acknowledge that if I give misleading or inaccurate statements on behalf of my organisation/club, this application may then be disqualified.

<b>Signature</b>	
<b>Print Name</b>	
<b>Position within Organisation/Club</b>	
<b>Date</b>	





**Minutes of Meeting of the Development Committee of Mid Ulster District Council  
held on Thursday 2 September 2021 in the Council Offices, Circular Road,  
Dungannon and by Virtual Means**

<b>Members Present</b>	Councillor Molloy, Chair  Councillors Black, Burton, Clarke*, Corry*, Cuddy*, Doris*, Kerr*, Milne*, Quinn*
<b>Officers in Attendance</b>	Ms Campbell, Director of Leisure & Outdoor Recreation Ms Linney, Head of Community Development** Ms Grogan, Democratic Services Officer
<b>Others in</b>	Councillor S McGuigan*
	<b>Deputations</b> Blackwater Community Barge For You Charity, Dungannon Naomh Colum Cille GAA

\* 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 Molloy welcomed everyone to the meeting and those watching the meeting through the Live Broadcast. Councillor Molloy 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.*

**D128/21 Apologies**

Councillor Ashton, Elattar, Monteith.

**D129/21 Declarations of Interest**

The Chair Councillor Molloy reminded Members of their responsibility with regard to declaration of interest.

**D130/21 Chair's Business**

The Chair advised that questions would be taken after each completed presentation.

**D131/21 Blackwater Community Barge**

The Chair welcomed to the committee Mr Brian MacAuley, Mr Conor Mallon and Mr Andrew Trotter, representatives from Blackwater Community Barge and invited them to make their presentation.

The representatives thanked members for giving him the opportunity to present to the committee the Blackwater Community Barge Project (appendix 1).

They provided a brief overview and outlined the attraction of the Blackwater River which included:

- Heritage – The Argory, Coalisland Canal, Ulster Canal, Moy and Blackwatertown, Verners and Bonds, GNR Railway, The Vikings, Clonmore Shrine, Eel Fishing on Lough Neagh and Coney Island
- Natural History – Birds, Flora and Fauna, Insects
- Leisure – Fishing, Boating Canoeing and Walking

The Chair thanked the representatives for their impressive presentation and stated that the Blackwater River was something very close to his heart as he had grown up very close to it.

Councillor Doris thanked the representatives for their presentation and said that she was really glad to see this being brought to this committee tonight and encouraged any of the Councillors who planned a boat trip to go ahead and stated that she would certainly be in contact with the group. She advised that she had been down at the site not so long ago with the Chief Executive and Head of Tourism to see the entry at the barmouth at Lough Neagh which resembled a wall being built to stop access into it and felt that this was very sad as there were a lot of boat owners who had indicated that it was easier to put their boats on the Lakes of Fermanagh rather than the Lakes of Lough Neagh because of how bad it was.

She said that it was very hard to see the issues when there was such potential within the area which hasn't been reached and if the Lakes of Kerry was looked at, felt that this was nothing compared to what we have locally. She advised that a motion had been brought to Council a few months ago about securing the bed and soil at Lough Neagh and felt that this project really needed to tie in with it. She commended the group and reassured them that the Council would certainly continue to work hard on this project and said that it was fantastic to see the disability access onto the boats amongst other things as her uncle who was a wheelchair user unfortunately didn't get the chance to see this which would have been fantastic for him, but advised that it was great to see this service now being offered.

Councillor Cuddy advised that he knew the representatives well through his work with the Enterprise Centre and recalled them talking about this project for years. He stated that Mr MacAuley had taken him out on a boat a few weeks ago and he had previously kayaked up and down the Blackwater for a good few years with his daughter and was a world of its own, with the banks being high and whilst paddling up and down and can hear the traffic going from Benburb to Blackwatertown and unreal to think that a few miles away from here there was a complete new world there. He said that he hadn't been out to Lough Neagh yet but certainly the day he went out with Mr MacAuley he was confident that he knew the Blackwater reasonably well, but whilst on the boat the team were able to explain the entrances for the Ulster Canal, Coalisland Canal and other small rivers going in and out which was very interesting and have something going really well. He said it goes to show what a small group of people within the community can do without a serious amount of money and revisit what was our strength

and wealth a hundred years ago. He concurred with Councillor Doris' comments regarding Council becoming more aware of Blackwater and Lough Neagh and felt that it would be important to keep this momentum going.

Councillor Kerr thanked the representatives for their presentation and said that he was glad to see them mention the enhancement of all the bodies of water which was attached to the Blackwater especially the Coalisland Canal. He said that the dredging issue had really come to a head and one of the issues which he had raised regarding the dredging was the barrier of time it took Lough Neagh Rescue to get onto that part of the lough especially if a person got into difficult circumstances as the debris and other stuff which was causing the blockage would result in time delays for Lough Neagh Rescue and its volunteers. He referred to damage to boats the hoped that along with ourselves, ABC and all the relevant stakeholders that this issue could be grabbed by the scruff of the neck and try and get it resolved for once and for all.

The Chair thanked the representatives for their impressive presentation and said that the River Blackwater runs straight up to the Clogher Valley. He said that the group were providing fantastic work and the more people which could access the River and its facilities the better and as a Council working in unison with our neighbours in ABC, that this was the kind of projects this Council wish to develop where we encourage tourism and recreation and where people can get out and about and enjoy their local surroundings and encourage people from afar to come and see what was on offer. He concluded by stating that Officers would be in touch to press on some of the issues raised tonight.

The representatives left the meeting at 7.25 pm.

#### **D132/21      For You Charity, Dungannon**

The Chair welcomed to the committee Ms Glena McDowell-Khan from For You Charity and invited her to make her presentation.

Ms McDowell-Khan thanked the committee for allowing her the opportunity to address the meeting tonight and provided a brief overview of the work carried out by Me, You and Them which was a registered charity based in the heart of Dungannon (appendix 2).

She advised that the charity was a social enterprise which reacted to the need within the local area which provided everyday help, ie second-hand furniture items, clothing, mental wellness, foodbank, prepared meals, workshops & training, holistic therapies, befriending service, drop-in centre etc.

For You became a registered charity within 10 months of being established and supported:

- Over 1600 people since For You established in January 2020
- Provided toys for over 1000 children at Christmas
- Delivered over 6000 meals during Covid

MUDC, CFNI, Comic Relief, Halifax and Clothworkers are some of the funders that have invested in For You's work and currently there are over 20 active volunteers delivering services which was massively the organisation were very proud of and achievements to date and the support which was received.

Ms McDowell-Khan outlined the group's intentions for the future:

- To continue to consult with the community
- To create a positive impact in the area
- To work towards sustainability in the area
- Remove stigma in getting help or support
- Being reactive, now was the time to be proactive

The Chair thanked Ms McDowell-Khan for her impressive presentation and said that this was a moderate run down of what the group had achieved over the last while as he was aware of some of the fantastic work in which the group had been engaged in. He felt that 1600 people was well underestimated and the positive impact which the group had made on the community.

Councillor Burton thanked Ms McDowell-Khan for her presentation and said that it was interesting to hear of all the good work which was being carried out locally and delighted to hear that the group had linked in well with the Council to obtain funding and would really encourage her to keep that link going. She said that she would also encourage the group to liaise with Lorraine from COSTA based at President Grant's who quite often seeks funding and may also help the group find trained up Counsellors in dealing with some issues the people which the group are in contact with on the ground. She said that she was aware of how difficult it was when trying to support families and support the elderly through providing meals and having been a bit involved with this during the Covid lockdown, there were times that she had called at some elderly person's home when they were not seeing their extended family as often as they would have normally done. She recalled calling with an elderly lady and 9 times out of 10 when you met her in the past she was a really happy-go-lucky kind of lady, but had lost a child of her family and when Councillor Burton was about to leave her, she felt that the lady was going to go back into the house and not see anyone for the rest of the day and there was a part of her that was afraid to leave her. The lady picked up on Councillor Burton's anxiety about leaving her and she advised that she had lived with this every day and had come to terms with it, but really appreciated someone calling and providing her with a lunch really meant a lot to her.

She commended the work the group were doing and said that there were other agencies out there that would support the group. She advised that she also sat on the PCSP and over lockdown there had also been a lot of issues within families which had to deal with domestic violence and asked that Ms McDowell-Khan get in touch with Officers with that regard to see what support they could provide the group. For each of the 40 Councillors which meet in this Council asked that Ms McDowell-Khan keep in touch with them also to let them know what the group were currently working at as there could be some help and support which could be provided as well and encouraged the group to liaise with COSTA as they do grant trackers and grant finders to support the work in which the group were doing.

She concluded by thanking Ms McDowell-Khan for taking the time to attend the meeting tonight and wished her well for the future.

Councillor S McGuigan thanked Ms McDowell-Khan for her impressive presentation and acknowledged the work the group had done as he knew her well. He said that following on from Councillor Burton's comments, it was now the case of how to broaden and develop the networks as this was the course which was needed. He stated that support was needed from Councillors from those members which know about the group already and was confident that the group had a strong support from them and was good to see that this being spread amongst the remainder of members.

Ms McDowell-Khan said that she appreciated all the support she had received to date from Council.

Councillor Kerr reiterated with previous members comments and advised that he follows the group's work on social media and commended the workload they have done in such a short space of time especially establishing the group in the middle of a pandemic which no-one was prepared for. He said that in a post-Covid society, poverty was only going to get worse, with services and organisations like For You being made very welcome. He referred to the news today that the Tories were going to cut £20 each week from welfare and reading one beneficiary's account stated that it was like practically taking food from his mouth. He advised that a food bank was established in Coalisland to deal with the enormous amount of pressure some families had encountered and now it has been decided to set this up permanently. He hoped that the group would be about for a very long time and commended the group on the very good work that was being carried out.

Councillor Doris commended Ms McDowell-Khan and her group as they had been a lifeline to local people during the most difficult times within their lives and their service was invaluable to some people. She concurred with member's comment regarding putting yourself within a difficult position as there were all types of different situations and may be beneficial linking up with other groups in the area as it was a very heavy burden to carry. She said that she was very interested in comment made regarding working parents and quite often or not there was two parents working where the childcare was putting them over that edge for poverty but on paper they do not qualify for benefits. In relation to mental health said that if a person had an ongoing counselling service that costs £45 to £50 per week to get trauma or something similar and felt that there should be more of a focus on how to help people who are working and under that kind of threshold and not in the position to receive government help. She concluded by saying that the group were doing fantastic help and any help that she could provide please do not hesitate to get in contact and she would do everything she possibly can.

The Chair advised that Ms McDowell-Khan had the support of the Councillors which were at the meeting and had also continued support across the board and anything the Council could do i.e. signposting etc. towards many of the groups to get in touch. He also said that there were various strands of funding available and asked her to keep her ear to the group and keep in touch and wished her continued success in everything that the group were doing.

Ms McDowell-Khan left the meeting at 7.41 pm.

### **D133/21      Naomh Colmcille GAA**

The Chair welcomed to the committee Ms Joanne Canavan, Mr Damien O'Neill and Mr Colm Morgan from Naomh Colmcille GAA and invited him to make her presentation.

The representatives thanked the committee for permitting them the opportunity to present to committee on future plans of their club (appendix 3).

Ms Canavan advised that CLG-CC Naomh Colum Cille Hurling and Camogie Club was established in 1986 and was the only hurling club serving the Coalisland and Clonoe area. The camogie club was established in 2021 due to community feedback and demand.

She said that the club was working in collaboration with community groups to increase community wellbeing and provision of a variety of events to increase inclusion of all members of the community:

- Summer Camps, Yoga, Online Concerts, Halloween events, Irish Language Classes/Events, Cultural Events, Fun Days, Music Classes, Virtual 5km, Walks, Nutrition Sessions and Volunteer Work Schemes within club grounds.

Mr Morgan outlined the future plans for the club were:

- For a multi-use community facility
- Skills arena
- Walkway and flood lights
- Clubrooms made accessible for disabled access and female changing areas

The Chair advised that when capital projects were going to be developed like this, funding was always the stumbling block no matter what community group or enterprise it was. He said that from the presentation he picked up that there was community buy in and this could only be a good thing and a start. He said that it was up to Council and Councillors to signpost, engage and make sure that the group had covered all avenues in regards to what funding streams that may be available i.e. Rural Development, Sport NI, Sports Council etc. and was under no illusion that the group were already doing this work but just on the off change there may be something that falls through the cracks or missed. He stated that there was also renewable funding streams coming on board on a regular basis and the Council would endeavour to make the group aware of those.

Councillor Doris commended the representatives in doing such a fantastic job on providing an oversight on some of the issues in the area. She felt the group were being very modest and have been left behind and constantly fell through the cracks in relation to funding.

Proposed by Councillor Doris

That the relevant Council Officers at their earliest convenience arrange a meeting at the site just to see how dilapidated the place was.

She felt the Hurling Club was asking for very little for the value in which they bring to the community. She said as the Hurling Club was the only one within the community, there was literally lots of children coming on board from newcomer and minority groups etc. as there wasn't anywhere else locally. She felt the first thing to do would be to make the site safe and accessible as this currently wasn't the case and people need to get it into their heads what the issues were down there as the photos show an aspect of it but in reality it was completely different. She said that there was community buy-in and were much more than a Hurling Club and had an awful lot of overheads like sliotars, sticks, helmets etc which other places do not have.

Councillor Kerr seconded Councillor Doris' proposal.

Councillor Kerr said that as far as he was aware there was previous dialogue with Council Officers and wanted to thank the representatives for their impressive presentation.

He referred to previously mentioned comment in the presentation regarding it being a hotbed of activity for young people and said that it was great to see such a huge interest in hurling as it was under appreciated within our County compared to football, as it was our natural heritage in which we should be very proud of.

He said as alluded to earlier in the presentation, volunteers from Naomh Colum Cille worked through the pandemic and assisted the foodbank which was greatly appreciated and was one of the many positive activities that the club carries out. He said that he knew some the members personally and were very passionate Gael goers and GAA members and hoped that going forward that the Council could provide every option on the table for the representatives to realise their ambitions. He stated that this was the only Hurling Club that was predominately in the East Tyrone area and provided for the Coalisland, Brackaville, Derrylaughan, Derrytresk, Brockagh and the whole catchment. He hoped that this was the start of a conversation and in a few years' time we will be seeing Naomh Colum Cille's plans as a reality.

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council that the relevant Council Officers at their earliest convenience arrange a meeting at Naomh Colum Cille's site to see how dilapidated the place was.

Councillor S McGuigan wanted to say on behalf of himself and others that the area and the Club itself should be very proud of the work it was doing at present with the struggling resources, but also the fact that this was reflected in the strong support in which they were getting from their area and wished them well in the future.

The Chair thanked the representatives for their impressive presentation and outlining their intentions for the future of the Club and said that the committee wished them well and hoped to see things developing in the near future.

**D134/21      Duration of Meeting**

The meeting commenced at 7 pm and ended at 8.05 pm.

Chair \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_



**Minutes of Meeting of the Development Committee of Mid Ulster District Council  
held on Thursday 16 September in the Council Offices, Circular Road,  
Dungannon and by Virtual Means**

**Members Present** Councillor Molloy, Chair

Councillors Ashton\*, Black\*, Burton, Clarke\*, Corry\*,  
Cuddy, Doris\*, Hughes\*, Kerr, McNamee\*, Milne\*,  
Monteith, Quinn\*, Wilson

**Officers in Attendance** Ms Campbell, Director of Leisure and Outdoor Recreation  
Mr Browne\*\*, Head of Tourism  
Mr Gordon\*\*, Head of Leisure  
Mr Hill\*\*, Head of Parks  
Ms Linney\*\*, Head of Community Development  
Mr McCance, Head of Culture & Arts  
Ms McKeown\*\*, Head of Economic Development  
Mr O'Hagan, Head of ICT  
Mrs Grogan, Democratic Services Officer

**Others in Attendance** Councillor Gildernew\*  
Councillor Bell\*

**Deputation – Achadh Lú Ui Neill CLG (Aghaloo O'Neills)**  
Mr Felim Óg Gildernew\*\*\*  
Mr Stephen Donnelly\*\*\*

\* 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 Molloy welcomed everyone to the meeting and those watching the meeting through the Live Broadcast. Cllr Molloy 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.*

**D149/21 Apologies**

Councillor Elattar.

**D150/21 Declarations of Interest**

The Chair, Councillor Molloy reminded Members of their responsibility with regard to declaration of interest highlighting agenda items 11 and 17 which dealt with grants.

*Councillor Monteith declared an interest in agenda item 11 – Community Development – Good Relations Grants – An Seansiopa, Ballysaggart Community Association as involved with the project.*

*Councillor Gildernew advised that although he wasn't a member of the Development Committee he wished to declare an interest in agenda item 4 - Deputation – Achadh Lú Ui Neill CLG (Aghaloo O'Neills).*

## **D151/21      Chair's Business**

Councillor Burton advised that she had been contacted by a number of expectant mothers regarding their hopes to avail of the birthing pool facility at Craigavon Area Hospital. She advised that the birthing pool had been removed from the room that was normally used due to Covid and the need for more space and she was aware of some expectant mothers being given the option of delivering their child in a bath which was not safe. She asked that the issue be raised and a letter issued to the Executive Director and Interim Assistant Director for Maternity Services in Craigavon.

Councillor Burton sought committee's approval for Council to follow this matter up as a lot of women found this resource very useful at a stressful and trying time and felt that the option should be there.

All members were in agreement.

**Resolved**      That it be recommended to Council that a letter be issued to the Executive Director and the Interim Assistant Director for Maternity Services at Craigavon Area Hospital on concerns regarding the removal of the birthing pool for expectant mothers.

Councillor Corry wanted to wish Mid Ulster Pride all the best for their 2<sup>nd</sup> parade on Saturday in Cookstown. Pride was an opportunity to showcase our area as welcoming and inclusive and she for one cannot wait to attend as anyone who has been to a Pride parade will know that they are full of vibrancy, colour, fun and with a great carnival atmosphere of love and celebration. She said that she would like to take this opportunity to encourage people to attend the event, stay safe and to have fun at it.

*Councillor Cuddy entered the meeting at 7.05 pm.*

Councillor Doris proposed to invite Coalisland Development Association to present to the next Development Committee. She said that lately they embarked on the Great Place Scheme which was hugely successful and carried out a number of different projects i.e. reopening of the weaving factory in Coalisland and was the first time she had been to it which was really outstanding and would encourage anyone to attend. They also ran an event last weekend in regards to Tyrone Crystal where people could come and see how the crystal was made and some people were fortunate to take a piece of crystal home with them. She advised that over Covid the group had started a podcast on local history and heritage of the area and a lot of work has been carried out which was too much to mention here tonight.

She advised that the Great Place Scheme was now coming to a close shortly and the group were keen to continue on the good work that they have done already and asked that they be invited to the next Development Committee so that they can explain to the rest of the Councillors the good work that they were doing and how the Council could assist them going forward.

Councillor Cuddy advised that there had been a night at the start of the month where 4 deputations were scheduled to take place but on the night 3 had turned up. He said that there were deputations and standing orders and felt that the Chair had done a good job on the night but felt that Councillors had to realise that these meetings were for asking questions and not making a commitment for funding. After one of the presentations an email was issued to members indicating that Senior Officers would be going down to visit a site and whilst this was fair enough, felt that this should be done outside the meeting. He said it seemed to be if a member wished to make a proposal that this had to be done during a meeting and if a member didn't shout whilst the delegation was here, then there didn't seem to be any progress and sought clarification. He also felt that some refresh was needed for members on what they were allowed and not allowed to ask.

The Chair took on board Councillor Cuddy's comments but felt this was a way of finding out what these groups were doing, their ambitions and what they were delivering within our district across the board. He said that he would temper any Councillors from giving any kind of assurances that the Council would be funding anything or becoming involved in a presentation as this was for Officers to decide and for Councillors to take through the process. He advised that purely on the night it was to hear from the groups on their ambitions and what they were doing.

Councillor Wilson said that maybe a suggestion which had been the case in the past, was to listen to the presentation, ask specific questions relating to the project and when the group withdraws from the meeting or virtually, then a discussion can ensue on how to move forward rather than the group listening in on the conversation as well.

The Chair said although this may be easy in a room environment, it would be much harder to control within a virtual environment.

Councillor Monteith said that he totally understood what Councillor Wilson was alluding to but within the new way that this Council operates it would be difficult and he would not be supportive of the old closed committee system. He said that these were public meetings and he had raised before his concerns about the complete nonsense asking someone to come in to make their presentation, then asking them to leave the room whilst the committee discuss what the Council was going to do for them whilst the public can sit there and listen to the full proceedings. He felt that it was useful for groups to hear that the Council were proposing something and not unreasonable for them being in the room or in touch virtually where Councillors were able to propose that Senior Officers meet with them to discuss opportunities and should be the standard response that things should be at. He said that the way meetings were run it would be pretty silly to ask groups to leave the room as they have every right to walk straight back in and there would be nothing that could be done about it.

The Chair concurred with Councillor Monteith about meetings being open to all and said that if anything was needed to be discussed in confidential business then this should be at the Chair's discretion.

Councillor Monteith concurred with member's comments regarding refreshing and felt that it would do no harm to keep members reminded but felt that the standard response which was going to be given to everyone and their entitlement to hear it was that it be recommended that Senior Officers work with them and bring back a report.

Councillor Cuddy advised that Councillors were there to ask questions and for anyone bringing forward a presentation 99.9% of members were broadly in agreement. He referred to Coalisland district which had numerous parties like independent, Sinn Féin and SDLP who were trying to outshine each other and all trying to get to the front of it and said that they were each doing great work but the problem was that there was a need to be responsible as there was a whole area from Swatragh to Fivemiletown and there was a requirement to balance the resources right the whole way through. He said that there was a need to get a right way forward as there was going to be more of these delegations and members wanted to do their best for each one.

The Chair said that he fully accepted the member's point and hoped that all DEA Councillors when these groups come together would work in conjunction with each other and has seen evidence of this in the Torrent DEA as Councillors all work together with the groups.

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to invite Coalisland Development Association to present to a future Development Committee on their good work to date and how the Council could assist them going forward.

#### **D152/21 Deputation - Achadh Lú Uí Neill CLG (Aghaloo O'Neills)**

The Chair, Councillor Molloy welcomed Mr Felim Óg Gildernew and Mr Stephen Donnelly from Achadh Lú Uí Neill CLG (Aghaloo O'Neills) and invited them to make their presentation.

Mr Gildernew and Mr Donnelly thanked Council for allowing them the opportunity to make a presentation tonight.

Mr Donnelly provided a brief overview of their club and their ambitions for the future (appendix 1).

He advised that Achadh Lú Uí Neill CLG were seeking support in their aim to enhance their club through Phases 1 – 5 of a five phase capital development plan:

1. Refurbishment of existing pavilion;
2. Spectator Stand to main pitch;
3. Gym/Health and Wellbeing centre;
4. Community walking track around the perimeter of the club grounds;
5. A covered AstroTurf games and training area.

These five capital developments incorporate all of the primary areas identified through the community consultation.

The Chair thanked the representatives for their impressive presentation and said that being involved with a club himself it was an ongoing continuing development of facilities and that related to all sports clubs and community associations and commended the club so far and their plans for the future.

Councillor Monteith wished Aghaloo club all the best and was aware of the group being out in Dungannon before Covid and similar to his club who were also in the middle of a huge fundraising drive which wasn't easy as it takes a lot of knocking doors and a lot of dedication from a lot of people and shared the pain of any club which was at it. He said that he was delighted tonight to have them here tonight making their presentation and wished Aghaloo all the best in the future and hoped that the Council could help them in any way they could.

Councillor Kerr concurred with previous comments on a very ambitious programme and agreed that it was a monumental effort to gather funds and said that being involved himself with the Coalisland Fianna committee there was major plans but unfortunately it takes a bit of time.

Councillor Clarke thanked the group for their presentation and said that he had been involved with a club a long time himself which went through a lot of development over the years and was aware what the club were up against and what they had to do. He said that knowing Aghaloo and their background and competing with the club many a time, the club will get there and would be fully supportive of the Council including them in the organisations that can avail of the £50k to make up the shortfall in their funding package.

Councillor McNamee echoed the sentiments of the committee to Aghaloo and asked if the Club had been directed towards the Council's Sports Capital Grant.

Mr Gildernew advised that the Club hadn't been directed towards this yet but were keeping an eye out on any potential funding which became available, but agreed that they would keep any eye out for the grant mentioned.

The Head of Community Development confirmed that the Sports Capital Grant was closed at present but they were being supported for the discretionary.

Councillor Quinn also echoed the previous comments and thanked Felim Óg and Stephen for the presentation and advised that he had scored his finest goal down in Aghaloo many years ago. In referring to his own club in Derrytesk, he was aware how hard it was to fundraise and commended the group on an excellent presentation.

Councillor Cuddy referred to the £210k Aghaloo had raised and felt it was a great achievement for a Club of 200 to 300 members. He enquired if the Club had received any funding from the Department for Communities or anything else or was it purely raised through the local community.

Mr Gildernew confirmed that the £210k raised was purely through ticket sales and from the local community and no funding received to make up the figure of £210k. He advised that there was a team of nearly 80 club volunteers who were out selling tickets 4 to 5 nights per week from October 2019 to March 2020 when Covid hit.

The Chair said that this was a fantastic effort and was sure that the Club would have their ear to the ground in relation to all the funding streams which may become available like DAERA or any other different bodies that may avail of bringing funding. He thanked Felim Óg and Stephen for their impressive presentation and wished the Club well in their future endeavors and hoped that the development was up and running very soon.

#### **D153/21      Visitor Safety Group Membership**

The Head of Parks presented previously circulated report and sought approval to become a member of the Visitor Safety Group (VSG). The VSG provide a focal point of knowledge, expertise and proven good practice for managing visitor safety.

Proposed by Councillor Cuddy  
Seconded by Councillor Kerr and

**Resolved**      That it be recommended to Council to approve the annual membership to the VSG for one year at a cost of £1,000.00.

#### **D154/21      Forest Recreation Development Programme 2021-2030**

The Head of Parks presented previously circulated report:

- To present for Council approval completed Forest Recreation Scoping Studies for Drumcairne, Altmore and Dunmoyle Forests.
- To seek Council approval to progress with the phased recommendations presented and to seek all necessary Licence and Lease Agreements with relevant stakeholders in order to progress development plan outcomes for Drumcairne, Altmore and Dunmoyle Forests, subject to available funding.
- To further, progress the approved Action Plan of Mid Ulster District Council Outdoor Recreation Strategic Plan, March 2020.

The Chair advised that this was a very comprehensive presentation for the 3 proposals and very well done.

Councillor Doris said that she was delighted to see this report coming to Council and was aware of the huge amount of effort which went into it and thanked all the staff involved. She said that it was important to keep the momentum going on this and would be happy to propose the recommendations but due to the importance and the amount of detail that were included in the documents, it would be essential that the relevant Council Officers set up a meeting to engage with Cappagh Village Regeneration Group and Stewartstown Community Group to go over the plan in detail as a number of relevant concerns had been raised with her. She stated that overall

she was very happy to see it and was excited to see such hard work being put into it and cannot thank the communities of Stewartstown and Cappagh enough as there were over 1,000 responses to the consultation and was a community project led by the community so was fantastic work.

Councillor Kerr reflected Councillor Doris' comments and agreed that it was a hugely comprehensive report with a lot of work and detail instilled in it but due to the magnitude of significance for other areas and agreed with previous comment on the importance of including the relevant stakeholders and community groups. He referred to a few observations relating to Altmore:

- The costs for the playpark identified as around £25k and felt that this was a very conservative figure for what was needed as an investment for the scale and regeneration of the overall recreation area
- Community Facility Provision – water based activities and provision and asked for on top of toilets/training room/changing provision/catering a multi-usage room for different ideas
- Lighting provision – no real mention of this as the proposed development was not fully utilised in darker evenings as can be seen in this time of year – Autumn/Winter time and also for safety in a rural perspective which will help with greater accessibility opportunities
- Altmore/Forest Area (Fermanagh & Omagh District Council Boundary) is outlined, only has basic signage and some furniture, with existing paths provided highly functional facilities for purposeful exercise. He enquired if there was a guarantee the site would be suitable for existing paths for families with pushchairs and wheelchair users, particularly with the coarse gravel.
- Toilet Provision – no reference to toilet provision in Altmore Forest Zone 1 area, with a 7.6 km route and the potential for organised events such as running and a lot of local running groups existing in the locality. If development in Zone 2 Cappagh Reservoir this might alleviate this issue.
- Connecting links proposal is fundamental to link the projects all together and ensure that Riverside Walk and each of the zones are brought together to maximise the project development.

Councillor Ashton referred to item 4.1 and sought clarification on the recommendation in the paper to look for the capital funding out of the P&R for match funding. She sought clarification from the Officers on projected costs of 4.1 figures and asked if we were looking for Council to support it 50%, 30% or even 20% and enquired if some of the Departments were contacted first to see what funding was available to us or was there a possibility that we were going to be left with 100% funding.

The Head of Parks said that this stage a letter of offer would not have been received from the funders and obviously the Officers would be pursuing the different streams of funding for each of these projects as done with previous and current Forest Development Proposals and would be brought to committee on whatever package funding would be required at that particular time. He said that this was depend on available funding but in relation to previous projects funding had ranged from 50% to 70%, but whether we will be able to achieve that level of funding remains to be seen but would be an objective to try and ensure to get as much maximum funding for these

projects. He advised that these would be brought at the appropriate time to P&R as each individual projects was developed.

Councillor Ashton stated that there was a need to be prudent, especially listening to the two previous speakers who were obviously looking more community consultation and would be important that this doesn't come to the P&R committee until after this was completed and the true total cost known as there seemed to be a long list of requirements coming forward and already a long project which was already over £1.4m. She felt that the total costs at the finance end needed to be brought forward as complete.

The Director of Leisure and Outdoor Recreation wished to reassure members that the concepts which were in front of them tonight were essentially that, high level concepts. She advised that no reports would be brought forward to P&R committee until we were further down the design route and know exactly what was included in it and appropriate funding sourced to allow the projects to progress. She stated that no report would be brought forward to committee next month as time was needed to get further details on design and some of the requests coming from the community through members tonight would be incorporated into the next stage of the development with the costs being reviewed and revised at that point and time. She confirmed what was in front of members tonight were high level concepts with the next stage to work up the detail of exactly what was to be included within each of the specific elements.

Councillor Cuddy said that it was his understanding more work needed to be done to get to the stage and enquired if Officers were actively looking for funding and when it was anticipated to be brought to P&R committee as the Altmore Project was 2021-2130 and could be 10 years before it may be completed. He stated that if there was extra money in the reserves that this could be brought but would like to think that Officers were talking about 50% funding or possibly more as he had a feeling that this could turn up some night at P&R which Councillors outside the area not being made aware resulting in a huge decision to make as there was £2.5m proposed at the moment. He said that he would be keen to know exactly how much funding was available because at the end of the day it was the Forestry Service who owned the site and would like to think that they could also source some money towards the project.

The Director of Leisure and Outdoor Recreation advised that Officers would be seeking as much funding as possible and was pleased to say that the Council were pretty successful in getting funding for these types of projects, but a lot of the times there was a requirement to have the project shovel ready for when the funding was there. She stated that there was a need to progress with the development and a more detailed design and proactively looking all the time and it there may be an instance where a programme opens quite quickly and Officers needs to be ready to avail. She wished to reassure members that funding was being sought with the possibility of getting as much as possible as some of the projects had generated funding of 70 – 75% in the past. She cannot say whether this kind of funding would be available in the future or not, but usually if there was a good project, then funding could be found somewhere which Officers were actively doing as these were really good projects and were something that benefits the local areas as well as Mid Ulster district. She reiterated her confirmation that these projects would not be brought to P&R seeking



100% funding without sourcing match funding and the requirement to have agreement from stakeholders and landowners in place which would take time.

Councillor Burton said that by listening to the whole debate around these projects it would be important to have the money in place but agreed that there was a requirement to have it as near shovel ready if funding becomes available. She referred to past experiences with the Brantry and Round Lake with Council being very successful in getting money but may come when we run out of steam and unable to allocate money to that area and this may be the one caveat. She said that whilst reading the report she would be a bit concerned about some of the projects ranging from 7 to 10 years and the absence of Lumfords Glen yet again and was aware of this work for these projects solely in mind. She wished to remind Officers that it was not so long ago where a meeting was held with Councillors right across Mid Ulster asking them to bring projects they wished to see going forward and this saddened her as this was somewhere in the Clogher Valley that the local people wanted to see utilised and some people chance going into the site even though it was not safe. She stated that if this site was enhanced then it would really open up tourism for the Clogher Valley area the same as the aforementioned projects also but would really like to keep it on the agenda and she never missed an opportunity to raise it.

She referred to previous comments made regarding when works were completed and referred to upgrades at White Lough by the Rivers Agency and said that it was a wonderful place to have and being really well utilised, with pressure being taken away from the Brantry Lough as it was really oversubscribed during Covid period resulting in some people being afraid to go near it due to the large crowds. She said that metal frames had been erected around White Lough and agreed with Councillor Kerr's comments about restricting mothers who wished to walk around it with their children in possibly a double buggy and yet if someone goes in with a quad bike or a bike and should not be solely down to what suits the anti-social behaviour to block it out as quite often it also blocks out people who really needed that facility who really needed to get out to have a piece of headspace with their young children. She said that it would be useful if Officers could progress this matter and look at alternatives so families can avail of these sites along with all forestry projects.

The Chair stated that any funding which could be garnered from external bodies should be pursued.

Proposed by Councillor Doris  
Seconded by Councillor Kerr and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to approve:

- 1) To adopt the broad recommendations presented in the scoping studies for Drumcairne, Dunmoyle and Altmore Forests and to progress a phased approach to the devolvement objectives subject to stakeholder approvals, partnership agreements and successful sourcing of capital match funding streams.
- 2) To procure and appoint suitably qualified Integrated Consultancy and Supply Teams (ICT and IST) to develop all necessary designs, specifications, procurement documentation and project manage agreed

- schemes associated to Drumcairne, Altmore and Dunmoyle Forests, subject to available funding.
- 3) All identified capital expenditure associated to the Drumcairne, Altmore and Dunmoyle Forest development proposals, subject to sourcing available match funding.
  - 4) Relevant Officers to set up a meeting to engage with Cappagh Village Regeneration Group and Stewartstown Community Group to go over the plan in detail.

## **D155/21      Sperrin Partnership Project**

The Head of Tourism presented previously circulated report to provide Council with an update on progress of the Sperrins Partnership Project and seek approval for future support funding.

Councillor Clarke said that it was unbelievable to think it was 4 years exactly since the conference was held and two and half years from any spend at all and would be happy to propose the recommendation.

He said that the Dark Skies was a component part of this and was saddened to see forestry work ongoing in Davagh in the last few weeks with tree-felling going right into the edge of the archeological site which was part of our archeological walk. He said that this was a very risky business as that site may extend as previously identified by surveyors approximately 15 years ago that some of the features in place extended through the trees. He stated that the machinery which cuts the trees were up to 30 to 40 ton and leave the site like a moonscape because the trees were stripped and a bed made with the branches which were removed and haul out the trunks. He said that he would be afraid that there could be irreparable damage done at the site as this was actually the Davagh Eskers which was a very important heritage site as it was site of the Battle of Esker McLaughlin which was a major event back in the 1200s.

He said that he was fairly confident that this was around the site of Loch Beigfhine where O'Neill stayed on the 12<sup>th</sup> September 1607 during the Flight of the Earls and this was beside Davagh Eskers also. He also referred to Templemoyle which also sits in that site somewhere more than 80 yards from the County boundary and must be somewhere around where the archeological site was. He concluded by saying that all of those features were there under trees amongst other things and requested that Council contact Forest Service to ensure that these sites were protected and suggested that a meeting be arranged on site due to the amount of hidden heritage within the area which was unique and one chance of saving it and would be terrible to lose something which was irreplaceable.

Proposed by Councillor Clarke  
Seconded by Councillor McNamee

**Resolved**      That it be recommended to Council agree:

- 1) To continue to offer financial support for the continuation of the Sperrins Partnership Project at a cost of £22,000 annually. This

funding will be vital to ensure that the Sperrins Partnership Project can deliver on its vision as outlined at the Sperrins Future Search Conference. Subject to all Councils agreeing.

- 2) That Council contact Forest Service requesting an onsite meeting regarding concerns around possible irreparable damage to archaeological sites around Davagh.

## **D156/21      Blackwater Study**

The Head of Tourism presented previously circulated report and sought approval from the Council to carry out a study on the economic, recreational and environmental benefits of reopening water access to the Backwater River.

The Chair stated that this was something close to his heart and had raised it a number of times and said that this scoping exercise was very welcome and would be happy to propose the recommendation.

Councillor Kerr said that he would be happy to second the proposal.

He commended the Head of Tourism and his team on a very good report and some very positive actions being carried out, especially in reference to the dredging of the Lough. As previously mentioned at earlier meetings he had met with Lough Neagh Rescue and local Fishermen who organise the boat Flotilla and was glad to see affirmative action being carried out and hopefully this was the beginning of solving this long term issue. He also believed there was a lot of potential with the Lough Neagh, accessibility to local sources including Coalisland Canal which was exciting and something he was looking forward to seeing.

He said that he had a slight issue regarding 2<sup>nd</sup> point on item 3.2 *“Identify and engage with all relevant statutory bodies which identify all legal responsibilities for boating, tourism, navigation, water quality, flooding, dredging, waste disposal and funding”* and asked that Lough Neagh Rescue be included in that engagement as they would be better aware than the Council about safety issues at Lough Neagh as dredging of the Lough would be one of them as it slows the team down when they are trying to rescue people in distress.

The Head of Tourism agreed to take this on board and apologised to members as Lough Neagh Rescue should have been included in the report front and centre.

Councillor Cuddy concurred with the previous two speakers but sought clarification on whether consent was needed from the owner of the Lough to proceed.

The Head of Tourism advised that the responsibility for the bed of the Lough was the Shaftsbury Estate and part and parcel of the consultation and anything the Council proceeded to do would be done through their permission.

Councillor Quinn said that he welcomed the report and sought clarification on the £12k from the tourism bridge and enquired if DfI had been approached about the funding they were allocating towards the Blueway/Greenway Project and funding towards

feasibility studies and whether they were approached in regards to that. He noted that the project had to be completed by 30<sup>th</sup> November 2021 and enquired if this was a bit ambitious and hoped that the feasibility study would be done for the Coalisland Canal and was aware that a clean out was currently being done on the canal in the town and hoped that this would really pick things up. He said that he could not underestimate the potential of opening up the Blackwater for Moy and the Mid Ulster area and referred to the £12m which was allocated to the Ulster Canal and the real effort which was being put in by Dublin to get this opened up and hoped that this would be extended up through Mid Ulster in the years to come.

Councillor McNamee enquired if this would link into ICBAN work which was taking place.

The Head of Tourism advised that agreed that this would link in and when you take Ulster Canal, this would be start of the process.

In referring to Councillor Quinn's query about achieving the completion by 30 November 2021, the Head of Tourism advised that he would ideally like to see this completed by that date at the very latest and agreed that it was a tight turnaround but at the same time given its potential and the potential for opening up for next season and would be keen to get it done and in the event of not being completed by the end of November, certainly December. In regards to contacting DfI, confirmed that they hadn't been approached but would endeavor to do this.

Proposed by Councillor Molloy  
Seconded by Councillor Kerr and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to procure a company to produce a feasibility study and recommendations report to assess the potential of opening the Blackwater River.

#### **D157/21      Market Led Product Development Programme**

The Head of Tourism presented previously circulated report to:

- Inform members of the Tourism Northern Ireland Market Led Product Development Programme and details of application to TNI for funding.
- Seek approval from Council to deliver the outputs of the application if application is successful

Councillor Cuddy said that it was great to see the funding but was disappointed that Hill of The O'Neill wasn't included and seemed to miss the opportunities for funding every time in last number of years and hoped that going forward a set of proposals could be drawn up to get them over the line as the area had such potential which wasn't being fully utilised.

The Head of Tourism advised that under the Living History Programme, the living scripts, costumes and actors at £50K, Hill of The O'Neill was included in there and

was pleased to say that it had been included in that section. He said that he was also disappointed that the Hill of The O'Neill wasn't eligible for funding but it was in there.

The Chair said that he was confident that some of the other programmes could be facilitated at the Hill of The O'Neill.

Councillor Kerr referred to item 3.6 point 4 – Feed and Watered Programme and said that he was disappointed that only Dungannon, Cookstown and Magherafelt towns would be included and not Coalisland or any other areas across the Torrent District electoral area including Donaghmore, Stewartstown, Ardboe etc. and asked if this could be relooked at.

The Chair said that it was his understanding that this was not exclusive to the three towns.

The Head of Tourism agreed that it wasn't exclusive and assured Councillor Kerr that his request could be included at this stage as Officers hadn't got to the stage of detailing the development of the programme and would relative to the entire district.

Proposed by Councillor Cuddy  
Seconded by Councillor Kerr and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council that if application to Tourism Northern Ireland is successful, to deliver the outputs of the programme.

#### **D158/21 Corporate Events – Halloween and Christmas Update 2021**

The Head of Tourism presented previously circulated report to:

- Update members on the proposals for both Halloween and Christmas 2021, as the district continues to move out of restrictions being mindful of the fluid environment
- Seek approval to move forward with the recommendations.

Councillor Doris referred to the budget for Coalisland particularly Halloween where there was specific issues during that period and enquired if the budget had decreased from 2019 for events.

The Head of Tourism advised that all budgets had changed from 2019 as Coalisland and Maghera would have been greater and also Dungannon, Magherafelt and Cookstown having a greater budget. Fireworks displays would have been included which were quite costly and it was felt that £5,000 should animate the town centres, excluding the fireworks displays and going forward allocate an even funding to each town in terms of their size and budget. He concluded by saying that the budget had been decreased due to no fireworks display taking place as this could cost up to £3k on its own.

Councillor Corry said that it may be beneficial to look at the possibility of having a vaccination clinic running alongside some of these events. She said that it may be worthwhile inviting some of the Trusts to host close by and do it as a joint initiative.

The Head of Tourism agreed that this could be investigated.

Councillor Monteith said each year correspondence was received from animal lovers in the community who continually raise the issue of fireworks causing much stress to pets, wildlife and farm animals. He suggested that it would be beneficial to investigate pet friendly light shows in place of fireworks displays. This could be laser displays around towns or on huge screens as there was a need to reinvent ourselves going forward.

He proposed that Officers investigate pet friendly light shows going forward in place of fireworks i.e. laser displays to protect pets, wildlife and farm animals.

Proposed by Councillor Kerr

Seconded by Councillor Corry and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council -

- 1) With restrictions remaining in place the primary focus in planning for this year's Halloween and Christmas Events will be a programme comprising multiple sites that accommodate footfall and social distancing while enabling people to enjoy a variety entertainment and experiences safely.
- 2) Develop a programme of events both live and online events to enhance the customer experience when visiting the town centres during last weekend of October to celebrate Halloween and the four weekends prior to Christmas.
- 3) To investigate pet friendly light shows going forward in place of fireworks i.e. laser displays to protect pets, wildlife and farm animals.

## **D159/21 Community Development**

*Councillor Quinn declared an interest in Community Festival Grants – Derrytresk Community Projects.*

The Head of Community Development presented previously circulated report to provide an update on key activities and sought approval for the following:

- Community Grants - to agree the rolling grant awards - Local Community Festivals, Good Relations, and Decade of Anniversaries
- Mid Ulster Advice Service – to agree to go to tender
- Community Development - to update on Community Development
- Community Planning; Response to the Department for Health Consultation on the Integrated Care System – to agree a Council response

**(i) Community Grants - Local Community Festivals, Good Relations, and Decade of Anniversaries**

Proposed by Councillor Kerr  
Seconded by Councillor Molloy and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to approve grant award recommendations outlined in Appendix 1.

**(ii) Mid Ulster Advice Service**

Proposed by Councillor Corry  
Seconded by Councillor Quinn and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to proceed to tender for Mid Ulster Advice Service.

Councillor Burton enquired who monitored the advice.

The Head of Community Development advised that there was two parts to the recommendation, the first part was the tender for the Council advice provision and Officers monitor this element. The second part of the recommendation was to release the funding that DfC give directly to the Advice Services outside of the Council's contract, but allocate through Council, and they carry out the monitoring on the element of delivery.

**(iii) Community Development**

Noted.

**(iv) Community Planning; Response to the Department for Health Consultation on the Integrated Care System**

Councillor Monteith welcomed the response and commended Officers on a good piece of work following on from other good pieces of work coming out of the Development Department. He said that he shared the Head of Community Development's concerns relating to administrative boundaries proposed which would be similar in Cookstown and Magherafelt, but not Dungannon and its wider hinterland, which had always suffered due to this boundary issue with Southern Trust and the former old Education & Library Board. Dungannon has lost out due to it being within a different boundary with the focus being on *Craigavon and/or Newry*. He also stated that although he had no difficulty with partnership in principle, his concern would be if the Council become involved there was a danger that it could get the blame if difficult decisions were required and they have no say in the outcome, but would be used as a consultee. He would like assurances that there was input to decisions and new ways of working and not used for community led consultation which resulted in a deterioration of services, rather than an enhancement of services.

He concluded by saying that it was a good piece of work but there was a need to be cautious as the Council could be used by Officials from the Department of Health as they could say that we were in agreement and this would result in our Council getting the blame. If Council does get involved heavily we could be classed as being part of the problem rather than the solution.

The Chair shared Councillor Monteith's sentiments.

Councillor Burton concurred with Councillor Monteith's comments and said that she couldn't have said it better herself and commended the Community Development team on the report. She stated that she used to sit on the South Tyrone Hospital Forum and at the end of its existence the group felt it was being used as a consultee for difficult decisions such as closure of key services when they did not agree with these and their involvement was more of a tick box exercise. She felt that there was an onus on Council to take a hard look at this.

She also advised that she was part of NILGA and she had raised the issue of the differences between the Northern Trust and the Southern Trust and the need for one overall approach and process.

The Chair said that the sooner we get rid of bureaucracy and levels of administration within Trusts that exist we will have a better health service. We have all seen the issue with GP's especially in the Dungannon and South Tyrone area this last while and this has been extrapolated across. He asked that the Head of Community Development take on board members concerns and iterated previous comments regarding a good piece of work.

The Head of Community Development stated that in light of concerns raised by members and the lack of detail in the document there was a need for further engagement and discussion. Whilst it does state that Specialist Regional Services would not be part of the discussion of the proposed groups further clarity on the remit of discussion would be helpful. She said that it may be beneficial to get a meeting with the Trust to identify what the basis of decision making and via what partnerships and receive more information in a proposed Terms of Reference for the groups.

Proposed by Councillor Monteith  
Seconded by Councillor Kerr and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council:

- 1) To issue response to Department for Health Consultation on the Integrated Care System.
- 2) To request that a meeting be arranged with the Department of Health to discuss the future model and how it will work in terms of decision making and real influence of future health outcomes, and its representation and links with community planning.



## **D160/21      Economic Development Report - OBFD**

The Head of Economic Development presented previously circulated report to provide an update on key activities and sought approval for the following:

### **(1)      Mid Ulster Town & Village Business Spruce Up Scheme**

Proposed by Councillor Burton  
Seconded by Councillor Cuddy and

**Resolved**      That it be recommended to Council to:

- 1.1.1**      Note Evaluation Report for Phase 2 of Mid Ulster Town & Village Business Spruce Up Scheme (2020/2021)
- 1.1.2**      Approve to ring-fence funds in the economic development budget in 2022/2023, totalling £148,484, to fund the remaining successful businesses in Phase 4, currently held on the ranked reserve list.
- 1.1.3**      Approve for officers to seek quotations to appoint an independent Chartered Architect to manage the delivery of the scheme for the final year (Phase 4 - 2022/2023).

### **(2)      Future Business Start Provision Research**

Proposed by Councillor Quinn  
Seconded by Councillor Burton and

**Resolved**      That it be recommended to Council to approve a financial contribution from Mid Ulster District Council of £1,735 (excluding Vat) towards the costs of undertaking an options analysis to inform the potential delivery of business start-up support post 2023 using Belfast City Council's Consultancy Framework to appoint a service provider on behalf of the 11 Councils.

### **(3)      NI Chamber of Commerce: Regional Networking Event 2021**

Proposed by Councillor Cuddy  
Seconded by Councillor Burton and

**Resolved**      That it be recommended to Council to approve request from NI Chamber of Commerce to fund a Mid Ulster Regional Networking Event on 8 November 2021 at Hill of the O'Neill, Dungannon, for a fee not exceeding £700 (excluding Vat) for catering and room hire, subject to the alignment of attendee numbers being in accordance with government guidelines.

### **(4)      DAERA Rural Policy Framework for NI – Consultation**

Proposed by Councillor Corry

Seconded by Councillor Quinn and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to retrospectively approve Council's consultation response to DAERA's Rural Policy Framework, which was submitted to DAERA by the deadline of 6 September 2021. If any member wishes for additional comments to be forwarded to DAERA to supplement Council's consultation response, these should be forwarded to the Head of Economic Development by 22 September 2021.

**(5) Skills Strategy for NI – Consultation**

Proposed by Councillor McNamee  
Seconded by Councillor Doris and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to retrospectively approve Council's consultation response to the NI Skills Strategy: Skills for a 10x Economy, which was submitted to the Department for the Economy by the deadline of 19 August 2021. If any member wishes for additional comments to be forwarded to DfE to supplement Council's consultation response, these should be forwarded to the Head of Economic Development by 22 September 2021.

**(6) MEGA Strategic Review and 3 Year Action Plan**

Councillor Monteith said that this covered in the last point, this point and the one coming up in point 9 and would be happy to propose and move forward with this particular project now that the trade unions were involved. He said that there was the MEGA proposal and then the LMP's later on in the recommendations regarding working and skills within an area and was conscious that MEGA were concentrating on manufacturing and engineering. He said that that it had been raised with him in the last few weeks about the lack of opportunities for training for young people in the construction industry. He stated that there were courses at SWC and again down to boundary nonsense as East Tyrone College suited this a lot better as it was more local and more susceptible to needs, with SWC now indicated that if they provide the course it doesn't matter where it is, might be in Enniskillen or Omagh and that was them covered and not good enough in the local community. He advised that he had been approached by a number of parents and young people who wished to be trained as bricklayers and had a lot of difficulty in trying to access this locally, but thankfully it was resolved eventually. He felt that a commitment was needed that these essential skills and trades were going to be available locally for people to avail off and would be happy to propose the recommendation to accept MEGA, but the Council mustn't lose sight that there were other industries out there and may be better suited to LMP as it was more of a wide ranging remit. He said that it would be beneficial for Officers to sit down with the skills providers and was aware of some community providers delivering these courses also, but this needed addressed and reassure people that these courses were going to be put on locally especially when young people were trying to pick a career and no point in picking a trade if there was no access to it. He felt that this could be a vicious circle as Colleges could say that there was no demand for

these essential trades like construction, bricklaying, plumbing, and electrician etc. and up to us to make sure that these trades can be accessed locally.

Councillor Kerr concurred with previous comments and said that when he was growing up and talking to local young people and who wanted to learn the trade of plastering they had to travel to Omagh which was quite ridiculous. He said that this could be costly for a young person who may be only earning an apprentice wage and from a low income family and may depend on a generous employer or different streams of funding available. He referred to the low number of lorry drivers in the area and had read an article where one lorry driver's wage went up 40% overnight and welcomed comments made especially relating to the construction industry.

Proposed by Councillor Monteith  
Seconded by Councillor Kerr and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to approve Council's match funding contribution of £5,000 is released to the MEGA Network for the preparation of MEGA's Strategic Review and 3 year Action Plan.

**(7) ESF Call 3 Match Funding Requests (2022-23)**

*Councillor Wilson declared an interest as Chair of Cookstown Enterprise Centre and as part of Enterprise NI.*

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to defer consideration of match-funding requests from Enterprise NI, NOW Group and Specialisterne Northern Ireland, until further information on match funding is received from the Department for Economy and Department for Communities. A further report will be brought to committee once the outcome of match-funding is known.

**(8) Mid Ulster Enterprise Week 2021**

Proposed by Councillor McNamee  
Seconded by Councillor Corry and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to approve the appointment of "ND Events" to co-ordinate, manage and organise all virtual events and promote and evaluate Mid Ulster Enterprise Week 2021 at a cost of up to £8,000 (including expenses and excluding vat) subject to the completion of all contract requirements.

**(9) Labour Market Partnerships (LMPs)**

The Head of Economic Development referred to previous comments made by Councillors Monteith and Kerr and advised that these would be taken on board and passed on to the Consultant. She stated that this particular initiative included all sectors and would welcome any comments back from members.

The Chair said that by working in the food industry he was very aware of the acute shortages by providers in the area which seemed to be a Brexit effect where a number of people have moved out of the area and employers were struggling to provide and had to downscale their operations accordingly. He said that there was a dearth of labour there which Councillor Kerr alluded to regarding the lack of HGV drivers getting food out and in and products to the shelves and said that it would be useful for comments to be taken on board on how these companies were going to resolve this.

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to approve the appointment of “Food for Thought” to prepare an Interim LMP Action Plan for 2021-2023, at a cost of up to £14,900 (including expenses and excluding Vat).

#### **(10) Mid Ulster Business Excellence Awards 2021**

Councillor Monteith advised that he had raised this issue in previous years and found it a bit rich for Bank of Ireland sponsoring Mid Ulster Business when they have closed their premises in Dungannon. He raised concern regarding Dalradian and the category they used the last time was ‘Best Community Impact’ and although this was sitting as unconfirmed, he stated that he certainly would not want to be connected with any events that particular company was associated with. He said that he had no difficulty in agreeing to the Council sponsoring the ‘Business of the Year’ award which was the perfect one for us and propose to proceed with this but make it clear to JPI that this was conditional and even at the last minute that Dalradian were confirmed as sponsor that Officers would have the authority to pull our sponsorship from the event.

Councillor Corry said that she would be happy to second the proposal as long as Dalradian weren’t connected to the event.

Councillor Kerr concurred with previous comments and said that Dalradian was like a bad smell that will not go away as seen in Ballinascreen where they were looking to take soil samples. He said that he looked forward to the day that the company leave the area and small actions like this show them that they are not welcome on the shores of Ireland.

Councillor Burton sought clarification on last sentence on item 2.10 within report where it states that it was going to send a team of people into the Clogher Valley area to promote the awards and her issue in the past was that a person had to vote for their favourite chippy or whatever was being voted for and to be fair one of the local restaurants did win in the past. She said that her concern was how the voting was carried out and it was her understanding that the paper carries the voting slips and with the paper not widely purchased in the Clogher Valley area and reduced the chances of having potential winners and yet there were businesses in the area who were also ratepayers to our Council. She felt that this should be an opportunity where everyone gets a fair chance and if the whole event was sponsored, she felt it shouldn’t be about the newspaper but about the businesses and this was where this all falls down. Looking back to how long this was going on and now only at this stage they were thinking about sending a team of people out when they were about to have another award ceremony which said it all really. She didn’t think that there would be many people rushing out from the Clogher Valley area to support it either.

The Head of Economic Development said that she would go back and enquire if there was other means of voting i.e. through their website as well as through the newspaper slips.

Councillor Corry agreed that if there was a facility to vote online it would allow to reach a wider audience.

Proposed by Councillor Monteith  
Seconded by Councillor Corry and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council:

- 1) To sponsor the 'SME Business of the Year' category at the Mid Ulster Business Awards 2021 at a cost of £1,750+Vat, subject to the following two conditions being met;
  - (i) Dalradian not being connected in any way to the Mid Ulster Business Awards 2021 and if there is evidence that they are, then Mid Ulster Council will withdraw its offer of funding.
  - (ii) Readers Voting Categories - JPI media to make available and promote two options for the public to vote for these categories – these being a new online voting option (via JPI's website) and the existing option of completing the form in the newspaper.

#### **D161/21 Leisure Participation**

The Head of Leisure presented previously circulated report to advise Members on the Council's Participation team activity year to date, to provide information on the intended active lifestyle plan for October 2021 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022 and to seek approval for a new pilot programme of activities to be delivered within the leisure service.

Councillor Monteith said that this was a good initiative to reach out to people who were not usually targeted like over 50's, physical or learning disabilities etc. and an ambitious plan to meet as many of these targets as possible. He said that some of these groups were hard to reach at the best of times and may be a lot harder during these unprecedented times of the pandemic and may not work out successfully the way it was wanted due to vulnerable groups being extra cautious. He asked that this initiative be continually worked upon and urged Officers to stick with this and commended them on their fantastic work.

He said that he had raised this issue before about the opportunity to take this forward, funding for external sporting groups who carry out fantastic work across a wide range of different sports and felt there was a need to try and tailor some funding to encourage them to target over 50's, people who had learning disabilities, physical disabilities. He said that there was a need to encourage the view that sport was life long and may be a smaller window in life where a person may have done competitive sport, then this doesn't mean that sport doesn't remain part of a person's life.

He proposed that a paper be brought to a future meeting on incentives to encourage external sporting organisations to target groups that this Council was about to target.

Councillor McNamee seconded the proposal to include a paper being brought on incentives for external sporting organisations. He also commended Officers in bringing forward a good report.

Councillor Corry concurred with previous comments and commended the Head of Leisure and his team on preparing such a comprehensive report which was well thought through on reaching out to hard to reach groups.

Proposed by Councillor Monteith  
Seconded by Councillor McNamee and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council:

- 1) To note the Council's Participation team activity year to date, to note the intended active lifestyle plan for October 2021 – 31st March 2022 and to approve a new pilot programme of activities to be delivered within the leisure service.
- 2) That a paper be brought back to a future meeting on funding for external groups i.e. sporting groups to target over 50s, people with learning and physical disabilities etc. to encourage people that sport is life-long for everyone.

*Councillor Wilson left the meeting at 8.56 pm.*

#### **D162/21 Sports Representative Grants**

The Head of Leisure presented previously circulated report to present to Members the proposed community grant allocations for the range of:

- Sports Representative Grant - Team and Individuals (February 2021 – August 2021)

Proposed by Councillor McNamee  
Seconded by Councillor Cuddy and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to approve the sports grant allocations as recommended within this report.

#### **Matters for Information**

#### **D163/21 Minutes of Development Committee held on 7 July 2021**

Members noted Minutes of Development Committee held on 7 July 2021.

#### **D164/21 Mid Ulster District Tourism Development Group**

Members noted update on progress in Tourism Development Projects, Funding, Visitor Information and Business Engagement across the Tourism Section.

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council that an update be forwarded to Councillor Kerr tomorrow or at the earliest opportunity regarding Washingbay Walkway.

**D165/21 Economic Development Report – OBFi**

Members noted update on key activities as detailed below:

- Mid Ulster Business Marketing Grant Scheme Update
- TRPSI Rural Business Development Grant Scheme 2021/22
- Department for Communities Funding Immediately after Public Realm Schemes

*Live broadcast ended at 8.59 pm.*

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

Proposed by Councillor Kerr

Seconded by Councillor Cuddy and

**Resolved** In accordance with Section 42, Part 1 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 D166/21 to D169/21.

**Matters for Decision**

D166/21 Brookmount to Spring Road Alleged PRow

D167/21 Mid Ulster Gift Card Tender Report

**Matters for Information**

D168/21 Confidential Minutes of Development Committee held on 7 July 2021

D169/21 Leisure Facilities Café Operations

**D170/21 Duration of Meeting**

The meeting commenced at 7 pm and concluded at 9.16 pm.

Chair \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## **Annex A – Introductory Remarks from the Chairperson**

Good evening and welcome to the Council's [Policy & Resources/Environment/Development] Committee in the Chamber, [Dungannon/Magherafelt] and virtually.

I specifically welcome the public watching us through the Live Broadcast. The Live Broadcast will run for the period of our Open Business but will end just before we move into Confidential Business. I let you know before this happens.

Just some housekeeping before we commence. Can I remind you:-

- If you have joined the meeting remotely please keep your audio on mute unless invited to speak and then turn it off when finished speaking
- Keep your video on at all times, unless you have bandwidth or internet connection issues, where you are advised to try turning your video off
- If you wish to speak please raise your hand in the meeting or on screen and keep raised until observed by an Officer or myself
- Should we need to take a vote this evening I will ask each member to confirm whether they are for or against the proposal or abstaining
- When invited to speak please introduce yourself by name to the meeting
- For any member attending remotely, if you declare an interest in an item, please turn off your video and keep your audio on mute for the duration of the item
- If referring to a specific report please reference the report, page or slide being referred to
- Lastly, I remind the public and press that taking photographs of proceedings or using any means to enable anyone not present to see or hear proceedings, or making a simultaneous oral report of the proceedings are not permitted

Thank you and we will now move to the first item on the agenda - apologies and then roll call of all other Members in attendance.



<b>Report on</b>	Community Development
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	14 <sup>th</sup> October 2021
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Claire Linney, Head of Community Development
<b>Contact Officers</b>	Philip Clarke - Community Services Manager, Oliver Morgan – Good Relations Manager, Michael McCrory - PCSP Manager, Martina Totten Community Planning Coordinator

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	Community Grants - to agree the rolling grant awards - Local Community Festivals, Good Relations and Decade of Anniversaries.
1.2	Capital Discretionary Grants – to approve the capital discretionary grant.
1.3	Emergency Support funding – to approve the venue/facility funding support.
1.4	Community Development - to update on Community Development.
2.0	Background
2.1	Community Grants – Council annually delivers a number of rolling community grants programmes; Good Relations and Local Community Festivals. Council also annually delivers the Decade of Anniversaries Grant. .
2.2	Capital Discretionary Grants – Council annually agrees a budget for the delivery of the Capital Discretionary Grant. A budget of £150,000 has been agreed based on successful applications to the grant programme.
2.3	Emergency Support funding – DFC has allocated Council a further emergency Covid 19 support fund to help the community sector remobilise and open up in light of the Covid 19 pandemic and social distancing requirements.
2.4	Community Development includes the following areas: Community Support, Good Relations, PCSP, Connecting Pomeroy and facilitation of Community Planning.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	The Community Festivals grant opened in June and is a rolling programme – 4 applications recommended for awards total £2,440.00 – 2 applications did not meet the minimum score threshold and will receive feedback from officers.

	<p>Good Relations – the good relations grant is a rolling programme - 2 applications are recommended for award totalling £1,905.00.</p> <p>See grant award recommendations in Appendix 1 for approval.</p>
3.2	<p>Capital Discretionary Grants – Council officers have liaised with a number of potential projects; however to date there is only one project ready to proceed for capital discretionary funding. Council will continue to work with other groups.</p> <p>It is proposed to support Aghaloo GAC to the value of £50,000 under the capital discretionary, as per the conditions of support, for the development of their facility, which was received in presentation to Council in September 2021. This includes the development of the first 3 phases of a 5 phase development; refurbishment of club pavilion, new spectator stand, and gym and health and wellbeing space. The full value of the 3 phases is £400,000 of which it is proposed Council contributes £50,000.</p>
3.3	<p>Emergency Support funding – In partnership with DFC, it is proposed to support the community sector through a grant fund to assist with opening up community development premises. Council has been told a proposed allocation of £134,000 will be forthcoming for emergency response to Covid 19 for the development and opening up of the community sector. <b>The allocation and letter of offer have to be confirmed.</b> To allow a state of readiness for the funding the following is proposed.</p> <p>It is proposed to deliver the above support via a grant programme to community venues and facilities –</p> <p>The grant support would be £1000 to £3000 as a maximum.</p> <p>It is proposed that it would be for groups with a minimum of 10 hours current or proposed community development activity in their community venue/facility.</p> <p>It is proposed the fund is for not for profit groups based on volunteering of all members, who deliver community development activity in their venue or facility for the engagement and benefit of the residents of Mid Ulster.</p> <p>See attached detail of the grant attached in Appendix 2.</p> <p>This grant will complement the DAERA Halls programme which is due to launch in October facilitated by CWSAN. Council will work with CWSAN in the promotion of the funding and aligning groups to ensure no duplication. It will also complement the Sport NI sports grant award.</p> <p>It is proposed to open the grant mid-October, following Committee, pending receipt of DFC letter of offer, and close it first week in November with grant recommendations to December Committee.</p>
3.4	<p>Community Development</p> <p>Community Support</p> <p>The Community Support team continues to work with groups regarding the development and delivery of community programmes.</p> <p>The team is supporting groups to open up their community provision again to keep people engaged.</p> <p>Good Relations</p>

	<p>Good Relations is continuing to deliver the Plan for 2021 – 2022.</p> <p>Peace IV Local Action Plan – the following local shared space projects are now complete – Moy, Draperstown, Moneymore Castledawson is at snagging stage, with Aughnacloy pending its final play park safety inspection. Donaghmore is ongoing and is near completion.</p> <p>Closure of programmes and grants is currently taking place with the exception of 2 grants which are completing; alongside the final elements of the cross border literary, cross border heritage, communications, and research projects.</p> <p>The towns shared space project engagement programme is completing. The design stage was delayed due to the need for CPD engagement, an extension to the Council Peace IV letter of offer has been requested to March 2022 to allow this element of the project to complete.</p> <p>Connecting Pomeroy – the projects are all at stage 4 design, with planning progressing through process. The stage 4 costs have risen due to inflation, and supply issues and cost relating to Covid 19/Brexit; Council is working with SEUPB on the current economic appraisal and addendum and the potential for additional funding, along with other sources of funding.</p> <p>PCSP – see attached previous minutes for information in Appendix 3.</p>
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
<b>4.1</b>	<p><b><u>Financial &amp; Human Resources Implications</u></b></p> <p>Community Festival awards £2,440 Good Relations awards £1,905 Capital Discretionary Grant £50,000</p> <p>Emergency DFC funding – Community Development venues/facilities fund £134,000</p> <p><b><u>Professional Support</u></b> None</p>
<b>4.2</b>	<p><b><u>Equality and Good Relations Implications</u></b> None</p>
<b>4.3</b>	<p><b><u>Risk Management Implications</u></b> None</p>
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Recommendation(s)</b>
<b>5.1</b>	Community Grants - to agree the rolling grant awards - Local Community Festivals, Good Relations.

5.2	Capital Discretionary Grants – to approve the capital discretionary grant award.
5.3	Emergency Support funding – to approve the venue/facility funding support.
5.4	Community Development - to update on Community Development.
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Documents Attached &amp; References</b>
	<p>Appendix 1 Good Relations and Local Community Festivals Grant Awards</p> <p>Appendix 2 Emergency Support Fund for Community Development venues/facilities</p> <p>Appendix 3 PCSP Minutes</p>

## Appendix 1

### Community Festivals October 2021 (Maximum £1200)

No	Organisation Name	Aim	Title Of Event/project	Band	Requested	Awarded
1	Moygashel Community & Cultural Assoc	Community	NI Centenary Festival Week	7	£1,500.00	£480.00
2	Desertmartin GAC	Sports	Community Family Fun & Day	6	£1,200.00	£600.00
3	Killeeshil Community Centre	Community	Vintage Display /Tractor Run	6	£800.00	£400.00
4	Ballinderry Community Hub	Community	Halloween Pumpkin Picking and Corn Maize Trail Fest.	3	£1,200	£960

**Total £2,440.00**

### Unsuccessful

Me, You & Them	Santa Goes Wild	Failed to meet minimum score threshold
Moygashel Lambeg Drumming Club	Northern Ireland Centenary Dinner Dance	Failed to meet threshold score threshold

### Good Relations October 2021 (Maximum £1,200)

No	Organisation Name	Aim	Title Of Event/project	Band	Request	Award
1	Apex Music Centre	Community	Apex Rock School	3	£1,200.00	£960.00
2	Ren-Bu-Kan Judo Club	Sport	Ren-Bu-Kan Judo Club Festival	2	£1,050.00	£945.00

**Total £1,905.00**

Bands	Score	%
7	30-39	40%
6	40-49	50%
5	50-59	60%
4	60-69	70%
3	70-79	80%
2	80-89	90%
1	90+	100%





Comhairle Ceantair  
**Lár Uladh**  
**Mid Ulster**  
District Council

## Community Development Venues/Facilities Reopening Grant Support Programme 2021

### **Name of Organisation:**

Please complete all details & return by Friday 5<sup>th</sup> November, 2021, close of play.

Guidance; please contact [philip.clarke@midulstercouncil.org](mailto:philip.clarke@midulstercouncil.org) Tel 03000 132 132

ext: 24611 or [emma.ohagan@midulstercouncil.org](mailto:emma.ohagan@midulstercouncil.org) Tel 03000 132 132 ext: 23616

Please email your completed **Community Development Venues/Facilities Reopening Grant Support Programme** to:  
[communitydevelopment@midulstercouncil.org](mailto:communitydevelopment@midulstercouncil.org)

### **Programme Fund Information**

The Community Development Venues/Facilities Reopening Grant Support Programme is specifically designed to assist local community groups and sector open up their community development venues and facilities to support a safe recovery and return of normal activities similar to those pre-Covid 19 pandemic.

It aims to help with costs associated with reopening venues and facilities in a safe manner and provide the necessary maintenance to enable active usage again.

The grant will provide funding across three threshold levels £3,000, £2,000 and £1,000, which will support capital, large equipment and key maintenance spend to groups for venues and facilities to support community development activity across community engagement, arts, culture & heritage, sports.

The grant funding takes account of the following conditions;

- I. The need and space of the venue/facility based on square footage of the facility that is opening up again for community development usage, based on restrictions of use currently due to social distancing etc. (photographic evidence will be required).
- II. The cost areas re capacity for opening up venues and facilities any capital infrastructure/large equipment/maintenance /essential repairs that are applied for as part of the application e.g.
  - changes to internal and external layouts to help with social distancing
  - provision of sanitisation stations/areas/capability, signage etc.
  - contribution to the modernisation of community facilities
  - provision of outdoor seating, barriers, awnings to support distancing
  - contribution to improved access & inclusion at community facilities

- III. The levels of usage in terms of groups using or activity in the venue/facility. There must be a minimum of 10 operational hours or proposed regarding usage per week, for a minimum of 42 weeks in the year.

Other standard grant conditions:

1. Funding cannot be allocated for a venue/facility where an existing SLA exists with Council. Groups currently in receipt of Council grants can apply.
2. Statutory and 'for profit' organisations, activities and recipients (incl. activities that receive statutory core provision are not eligible for grant).
3. Regional groups/organisations are not eligible to apply.
4. Applications that are not completed accurately and in full will not be considered.
5. Religious or political activity cannot be funded under any grant.
6. All applicants must present a project that will take place within the MUDC area.
7. Applicants must present a project that will be delivered by 31<sup>st</sup> March each year.
8. Evidence of good governance; including annual AGM, Group bank account, financial management practice, insurances, etc. will be required.
9. Successful applicants will draw down grants retrospectively based on vouched expenditure, with procurement adhered to. Advance payments will be 50% up to £1500 and 25% up to £10,000 with final verification of all expenditure.
10. Group recipients should not have a membership charge for its users accessing its community provision greater than £250.
11. Group recipients should have no element of profit gain to any member or individual of its Committee.
12. The following items are not eligible for funding:

Reclaimable VAT or other costs	Retrospective funding applications	Flags or bunting, sports kits	Groups or activities that discriminate against any section of the community	Equipment or items that duplicate what already exist or that are covered by other funding
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Funding will be assessed on

- IV. Need and Square footage of venue/facility for community development activity
- V. Need and number of planned groups/activity of use for the venue/facility
- VI. Level and nature of proposed costs for capital infrastructure, large items of equipment and maintenance to allow the venue/facility to operate close to full capacity and to maximize community engagement as much as possible
- VII. Confirmation that work can be completed / monies expended by 31<sup>st</sup> March 22

The funding can complement other funding however no duplication of support.



## Section 1 – You and your Group/Organisation

### 1.0 The Organisation's name and address:

Name of Organisation:

Contact:

Address:

Email:

Telephone number:

### 1.2 Please confirm your organisation is a not for profit community or voluntary group with an annual AGM and member volunteers.

Yes

☐

### 1.3 Aim of your group delivering community development activity

### 1.4 Project description

Please provide a detailed description of your community development venue/facility and how you plan to use the funding to open this up to the local community to emerge and recover to pre pandemic levels of activity. (Please attach photographic evidence of the exterior and interior of the facility, along with estimate square footage of space)

### 1.5 Programme of Activity

You must provide a breakdown of community development groups and activities linked to your proposed development of venue/facility. Confirm hours of operation (min 10 hrs per week) of all of the current/proposed activities/user groups.

Area of work	Activity	Who	Times

## 1.6 Cost Breakdown (please detail costs with the level of grant applied for)

List areas of expenditure	Total Cost	Requested Amount
	£	£
	£	£
	£	£
	£	£
	£	£
	£	£
<b>Totals</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>

Please list below your anticipated income for the project/event

Estimated Income:	£
<b>Total Income</b>	

## Section 2 – Checklist of attachments

The following documents are required with your form

- ☐ A copy of our constitution or set of rules
- ☐ List of Office Bearers
- ☐ Copy of minutes of Annual General Meeting
- ☐ An original Bank or Building Society statement not more than three months old that show your group's name, account number and current balance.
- ☐ Details of insurance relating to the project
- ☐ Photographic evidence of facility and square footage

If any of the above has been issued to Council already this financial year please state and you do not have to attach again.

- ☐ All above documents issued to Council in current financial year.

## Section 3 – Verification and Authorisation

**Data Protection Policy** -All data gathered will be held securely by the Mid Ulster District Council in line with the Data Protection Act 1998. All such data will not be shared with any third party unless required to do so by law.

### 3.0 YOUR SIGNATURE.

I confirm that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, all the information in this application form is true and correct. I understand that you may ask for more information at any stage of the application process.

Signed:

Date:

**Chairperson, Vice Chair, Secretary or Treasurer**

Please email your completed application to [communitydevelopment@midulstercouncil.org](mailto:communitydevelopment@midulstercouncil.org) by close of play on 5<sup>th</sup> November

**Minutes of the meeting of Mid Ulster Policing and Community Safety Partnership held on Wednesday 26 May 2021 at 2.30pm via Microsoft Teams**

**Present:** Councillor Christine McFlynn (Chair), Councillor Frances Burton, Councillor Anne Forde, Councillor Clement Cuthbertson, Councillor Meta Graham, Councillor Cathal Mallaghan, Councillor Dominic Molloy, Councillor Brian McGuigan, Councillor John McNamee, Councillor Sean McPeake

Alexandra Black (Vice Chair), Sue Chada, Grace Meerbeek, Seán MacGoilla Cheara, Pearse McFlynn, Julie McKeown, Hayley Wilson,

Superintendent Mike Baird (PSNI), Sharon Crooks (NIHE), Neil Gillan (SH&SCT), Michelle Grant (PBNI), Inspector Alison Johnstone (PSNI), Ryan McGee (EA), Inspector Peter McNeill (PSNI), Inspector Gavin Sterling (PSNI)

**Apologies:** Patsy Begley (NIFRS)

**In Attendance:** Michael McCrory (PCSP Manager), Annette McGahan (PCSP Officer), Shauna McCloskey (PCSP Officer), Martina McCullagh (PCSP Assistant)

The Meeting commenced at 2.32pm.

**PCSP188/21 WELCOME**

The Chair welcomed all to the meeting and advised that this was her final meeting as Chair of PCSP, as a new Chair will be appointed at Mid Ulster District Council AGM on 7 June 2021. The Chair thanked the PCSP Manager and staff, Elected Members, Independent Members and PSNI for their work and support during the year.

Councillor Burton thanked the Chair for the professional manner in which she carried out her role as Chair, particularly during what was an unprecedented year in all our lives.

Alexandra Black, on behalf of the Independent Members took the opportunity to thank the Chair for all her work throughout the year.

**PCSP189/21 DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

Members were reminded of their obligation in relation to declarations of interest.

**PCSP190/21     MINUTES OF MID ULSTER POLICING & COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 31 MARCH 2021**

The Minutes of Mid Ulster Policing and Community Safety Partnership meeting held on Wednesday 31 March 2021 were approved by Members.

**Proposed by:** Councillor Brian McGuigan

**Seconded by:** Julie McKeown

**PCSP191/21     MATTERS ARISING**

**PCSP185/21 – ANY OTHER BUSINESS – Do-nuts on rural roads**

Councillor Burton stated that ‘do-nuts’ continue to be an extremely dangerous activity on our roads and understands it is difficult for PSNI to patrol all areas, but requested that it is kept on their radar.

**PCSP185/21 – ANY OTHER BUSINESS – RAPID Bins**

Councillor McGuigan referred to the promotion of RAPID bins and requested an update on the promotional video.

PCSP Officer, Shauna McCloskey reported that all necessary information relating to RAPID bins in Mid Ulster has been provided to the Production Company and it is hoped this will be completed in the near future.

**PCSP192/21     PROJECT UPDATES**

The PCSP Manager referred Members to the Project Report Cards and provided a brief update on Projects.

PCSP Officer, Shauna McCloskey provided Members with an update on two Schools Programme which took place during the year, all be it on a smaller scale due to Covid-19. The ‘Who’s at the Door’ programme delivered by Beam Creative Network in conjunction PSNI schools officers and the ‘Positive Relationships’ programme delivered by Causeway / Mid Ulster Women’s Aid again in conjunction with PSNI schools officers, both proved very successful.

Members were informed that quotation requests have been issued in respect of the ‘Positive Relationships’ programme these will be evaluated and the programme will be delivered this year.

**PCSP193/21     SIDs UPDATE**

PCSP Officer, Shauna McCloskey advised Members that PCSP currently have 24 SIDs, two of which are being returned due to faults. There is currently 30 locations on the waiting list. The manufacturers have been contacted to ascertain if it is possible for the software to recognise two speed limits at one location at different times of the day, as this is the case at some locations. Members will be updated as soon as a response is received.

The PCSP Officer reminded Members to ensure that a street light number is included when submitting a referral for a SID, as this is essential for installation process. Members were offered assistance if they were experiencing difficulty completing the referral form.

Councillor Burton suggested moving the schools that are currently awaiting a SID to the top of the list to ensure they are installed as soon as possible, as they are required during term-time.

Councillor Burton referred to a request received from Fivemiletown Chamber of Commerce for a SID to be installed close to King George V playing fields in Fivemiletown.

The PCSP Manager provided a brief overview of the interactive link for SID Statistics and asked Members to forward any further suggestions that could improve the link. The link will be added to the PCSP Facebook page and circulated to Members.

Superintendent Baird thanked the PCSP Manager and stated that the statistics being produced will be very helpful to them in the future.

#### **PCSP194/21    MEMBERS SURVEY RESULTS**

The PCSP Manager stated that the survey shows Members would prefer to have face to face meetings and avail of further training. The NIPB are currently working on a training schedule which will be issued to PCSP Managers in due course.

#### **PCSP195/21    NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH SURVEY RESULTS**

Members noted the results of the Neighbourhood Watch Survey.

#### **PCSP196/21    BLACKOUT PLAY**

The PCSP Manager advised that the DoJ have highlighted that the 'Blackout Play' could be rolled out this year. The performance relates to real life experiences of being in the Justice system as a consequence of taking drugs/alcohol and what life decisions may have led them to be within the system.

The PCSP Manager advised that the DoJ are unable to solely fund the performance this year and wished to gauge the interest and ability of PCSPs to contribute towards this project. The cost would be in the region of £2,000 to £3,000 in order to have an impact across Mid Ulster area.

Following a discussion, Members made the following comments;

Alexandra Black, Vice Chair stated the content of the play would be invaluable and would be supportive of making a contribution.

Julie McKeown stated that if this prevented a young person making a wrong decision that impacted upon the rest of their life it would be money well spent and save money in the long run.

Councillor Burton queried how it would be rolled out and by making a contribution how many schools would have the opportunity to view the play.

Members agreed in principle to making a contribution on the proviso that the PCSP Manager obtain a more in-depth analysis of costings from the DoJ.

**PCSP197/21    PCSP INDUCTION TRAINING**

The PCSP Manager referred Members to the report of the recent Outcome Based Accountability (OBA) training provided by the Northern Ireland Policing Board. Members noted the results contained in the report.

**PCSP198/21    PCSP LEAFLET**

The Chair stated that the PCSP leaflet looks well and has excellent content.

The PCSP Manager advised Members to contact PCSP officers in order to make arrangements to collect a supply of leaflets or if required they could be issued by post.

**PCSP199/21    POLICE PROPERTY FUNDING**

The PCSP Manager reminded Members that community groups can still avail of funding through the Police Property Funding, grants of £1,000 to £10,000 for eligible projects. Applications for funding will need to demonstrate that the project engages with local police, contributes to building community safety and confidence in policing and is aligned to a charitable purpose. The closing date for receipt of completed applications is Thursday 8 July 2021.

**PCSP200/21    ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**Scams**

Councillor McGuigan referred to the increasing number of methods used to scam individuals out of vast amounts of money and suggested that PCSP highlight this issue to increase awareness and help make the general public more vigilant.

Superintendent Baird referred to the 'Banking Protocol', a UK-wide scheme that enables bank branch staff to alert their local police force when they suspect a customer is being scammed. Superintendent Baird offered to provide posts from their website to assist with scam awareness raising.

Councillor Burton referred to a very successful 'breakfast scam event' which was held prior to Covid, whereby local businesses were invited to attend and guest speakers provided excellent advice on how to recognise and avoid becoming a victim of a scam.

The PCSP Manager stated the 'breakfast scam event' can be looked at again, dependent on covid restrictions, These events were held in conjunction with the Crime Prevention Officers and bank officials also attended and provided advice and information.



### **East Timorese Group – collection of second hand items**

Grace Meerbeek advised Members that she works very closely with the East Timorese community across the district and wished to express her disappointment with the lack of support provided by Mid Ulster District Council when the group were collecting second-hand items to send to East Timor.

Councillor Cuthbertson reassured the Member that he would raise this issue with Council on their behalf, as it is not a PCSP issue. He also stated that he had recently visited a group in Dungannon who are collecting items for East Timor and praised their work and the work of all groups involved in this endeavour.

The Chair commended the work of the PSNI, especially the recent drug seizures across the district, pledging continued support from Mid Ulster PCSP.

Superintendent Baird thanked Councillor McFlynn for her work as Chair of Mid Ulster PCSP, during what has been a very difficult year. He also thanked the PCSP Manager and team for support provided throughout the year.

### **PCSP201/21    DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next PCSP meeting will take place on Wednesday 8 September 2021 at 2.30pm.

The Chair thanked Members for attending the meeting.

The meeting ended at 3.35pm.



<b>Report on</b>	1. Coalisland Great Places Project. 2. Mid Ulster Enterprise Week 2021 3. DfC Revitalisation Scheme 2021/2022 – Coalisland Town Centre
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	14 October 2021
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Assistant Director – Economic Development, Tourism & Strategic Programmes

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

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	To provide Members with an update on key activities as detailed below.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	<p><b>Coalisland Great Places Project</b>  This project is jointly supported by the Heritage Lottery and Mid Ulster Council. The project has explored the rich manufacturing legacy of the people of Coalisland and East Tyrone through a series of initiatives delivered in the local community by Lough Neagh Partnership. The Project has created opportunities for local people to build skills capacity, revive lost artisan and manufacturing skills and celebrate the area's industrial manufacturing heritage through the medium of arts and culture.</p>
2.2	<p><b>Mid Ulster Enterprise Week 2021</b>  Mid Ulster's third Enterprise Week is scheduled to take place between Monday 8<sup>th</sup> and Friday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2021. This year's event will follow a similar format as in 2020, being all virtual events due to ongoing Covid-19 uncertainties.</p>
2.3	<p><b>DfC Revitalisation Scheme 2021/2022 – Coalisland Town Centre</b>  The Department for Communities (DfC) has approved the Revitalisation scheme for Coalisland Town Centre to the value of £250,000, which follows the completion of the Public Realm Scheme, Conditions of the 100% funding include that all projects must be completed by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022.</p>
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Report</b>
3.1	<p><b>Coalisland Great Places Project</b>  Council previously approved £30,000 of financial support towards specific elements of the Coalisland Great Places Project over a 3 year period (as detailed in Table 1 below). In addition to the funding provided by Council, the Heritage Lottery Fund co-funded the project to the value of £312,100.</p>

**Table 1: Spend profile for Mid Ulster Council's financial contribution of £30,000**

Project Element	Council Contribution	Paid to date	Final Year of Funding Spread over 2 financial years (2020/21 and 2021/22)	
			Feb-Mar 2021	Sept 2021
Community Archaeology Programme	£ 10,000.00	£10,000.00	£0.00	£0.00
Field & Place name interpretation	£ 2,500.00	£2,500.00	£0.00	£0.00
Poetry, Songs & Stories	£ 2,000.00	£2,000.00	£0.00	£0.00
The story of manufacturing in East Tyrone	£ 2,000.00	£0.00	£2,000.00	£0.00
Introduction to fine craft skills	£ 2,500.00	£500.00	£2,000.00	£0.00
Community Heritage Education	£ 1,000.00	£0.00	£0.00	£1,000.00
Community Plays	£ 4,000.00	£2,000.00	£2,000.00	£0.00
The way forward - sustaining our Great Place	£ 2,000.00	£0.00	£0.00	£2,000.00
Exhibitions	£ 4,000.00	£4,000.00	£0.00	£0.00
	<b>£ 30,000.00</b>	<b>£21,000.00</b>	<b>£6,000.00</b>	<b>£3,000.00</b>

Council's last tranche of funding of £9,000 was due to be paid in 2020/21, however, Lough Neagh Partnership requested Council to transfer a proportion of this funding (£3,000) into the 2021/22 financial year, as a result of some activities being delayed due to the Covid pandemic. Council subsequently approved this request. Lough Neagh Partnership has provided a detailed breakdown of the activities relating to the £3,000 (on Appendix 1). All these activities have now been completed and the final payment of £3,000 will be made to Lough Neagh Partnership. This concludes Council's funding towards the project.

### 3.2 Mid Ulster Enterprise Week 2021

Mid Ulster Enterprise Week 2021 (8<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> November 2021) will provide a week of opportunity for local businesses and budding entrepreneurs to freely avail of advice and gather insights into creating, developing and sustaining a business during the pandemic. The events will appeal to all industry sectors and include topics such as funding and support mechanisms, leadership, negotiation, enhancing digital skills to increase sales (by exploiting Instagram, TikTok etc) and much more besides.

This year's Enterprise Week will be delivered virtually via a series of 10 online interactive webinars, with the exception of the first event being co-ordinated through the NI Chamber of Commerce and hosted by Council on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2021 at the Hill of the O'Neill event space.

3.3	<p>Council's delivery partner "Plannd" is assisting the economic development team in the management and delivery of the week-long range of events. An impactful programme is currently being prepared which will include a variety of high quality speakers. Further information will be issued to Members in due course when the final programme for Mid Ulster Enterprise Week 2021 is completed.</p> <p><b>DfC Revitalisation Scheme 2021/2022 – Coalisland Town Centre</b> Council's application to DfC for £250,000 funding has been successful and a letter of offer has been issued to Council on 17 September 2021.</p> <p>At the July 2021 Development Committee approval was granted to the Chief Executive to be awarded delegated authority to accept any of Letter of Offer from the Department of Communities (DfC) for the Revitalisation Project.</p> <p>This project is 100% funded by DfC and contains the following initiatives: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> <b>Festive Lighting Campaign (Approx. £80,000)</b> The purchase of reusable Christmas Tree that will be designed and installed and associated festive light motifs, including one for each of the 47 newly erected lampposts throughout the town. </li> <li> <b>Marketing &amp; Branding (Approx. £25,000)</b> Developing a new brand for Coalisland and subsequently purchase of new branded merchandise to promote and reinforce the new brand. </li> <li> <b>Lineside Environmental Improvement Scheme (Approx. £145,000)</b> This new project will link up the town centre with the soon to be redeveloped Gortgonis Recreation Centre. The area is located at the start of the towpath to Gortgonis entrance and caters for much pedestrian footfall, yet there are no pedestrian rest areas readily available for the public to use to encourage them to spend more time in the town. </li> </ul>
	<b>Other Considerations</b>
4.1	<p><b>Financial, Human Resources &amp; Risk Implications</b></p> <p>Financial:  <b>Coalisland Great Places Project</b>  Provision of £3,000 available in the 2021/22 economic development budget.</p> <p><b>Mid Ulster Enterprise Week 2021</b>  A budget of £28,000 has been set aside for Enterprise Week 2021 from Council's economic development budget. A proportion of these costs has been used to procure the services "Plannd" who are the Management / Delivery Agent to co-ordinate, manage and organise the week-long range of virtual events and promotion of Mid Ulster Enterprise Week 2021.</p> <p><b>DfC Revitalisation Scheme 2021/2022 – Coalisland Town Centre</b>  This project is 100% funded by DfC to the value of £250,000</p>

	<p>Human:  <b>Coalisland Great Places Project</b>  Officers time</p> <p><b>Mid Ulster Enterprise Week 2021</b>  Officer's time will be required to work with a Management / Delivery Partner in the development of a suite of events and to ensure the smooth running of Enterprise Week 2021.</p> <p><b>DfC Revitalisation Scheme 2021/2022 – Coalisland Town Centre</b>  Officers time from both Economic Development and Technical Services.</p>
	<p>Risk Management:  <b>DfC Revitalisation Scheme 2021/2022 – Coalisland Town Centre</b>  This is a time bound project.</p>
<b>4.2</b>	<p><b>Screening &amp; Impact Assessments</b></p>
	<p>Equality &amp; Good Relations Implications:  <b>DfC Revitalisation Scheme 2021/2022 – Coalisland Town Centre</b>  Equality &amp; Good Relations screening completed</p>
	<p>Rural Needs Implications:  <b>Coalisland Great Places Project</b>  Project was undertaken within Coalisland and adjacent wider rural areas.</p> <p><b>DfC Revitalisation Scheme 2021/2022 – Coalisland Town Centre</b>  Rural Needs assessment completed.</p>
<b>5.0</b>	<p><b>Recommendation(s)</b></p>
	<p>It is recommended that Members;</p>
<b>5.1</b>	<p><b>Coalisland Great Places Project.</b>  <b>Note</b> the remaining balance of £3,000 will now be released to Lough Neagh Partnership in the 2021/22 financial year, which completes Council's funding towards the overall project.</p>
<b>5.2</b>	<p><b>Mid Ulster Enterprise Week 2021</b>  <b>Note</b> update on Mid Ulster Enterprise Week (8<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> November 2021).</p>
<b>5.3</b>	<p><b>DfC Revitalisation Scheme 2021/2022 – Coalisland Town Centre</b></p> <p><b>5.3.1 Note</b> that DfC has issued their letter of offer to Council on 17 September 2021 for Coalisland Revitalisation Scheme 2021/22. Delegated authority was granted at the July 2021 Development Committee for the Chief Executive to accept the Letter of Offer and it has been duly signed and returned to DfC on 21 September 2021.</p>

	<b>5.3.2 Note</b> that Council's Technical Services Team will seek the necessary approvals from Council's P&R Committee in October 2021 to progress the capital aspects of the scheme.
	<b>Documents Attached &amp; References</b>
	<p>Appendix 1 - Coalisland Great Places Project Report - Sept 2021</p> <p>Appendix 2 - Letter of Offer for Coalisland Revitalisation - Sept 2021</p>





## Appendix 1

### LOUGH NEAGH PARTNERSHIP

#### Great Place Scheme: Coalisland and East Tyrone: The Historical Manufacturing Base of Mid Ulster



Comhairle Ceantair  
**Lár Uladh**  
**Mid Ulster**  
District Council

**CORE FUNDING 2021 - £3,000**

**April 2021 – September 2021**

### MID ULSTER DISTRICT COUNCIL ANNUAL FUNDING MEASUREABLE TARGETS AND QUANTIFIABLE OUTPUTS

Targets	Target Date	Funding	Quantifiable Outputs	Progress to up to September 2021
Community Heritage Education	Completed	£1,000	A series of industrial heritage themed talks and walks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Guided coach day trip by Ireland Coach Tours for students working with the Centre for Community Archaeology, Queen's University, Belfast.</li> <li>A series of heritage tour events for 18-25 year olds in the Assist Youth group, Coalisland Training Services. The following took place under strict Covid-19 controls: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>History talk and walking tour of Coalisland</li> <li>Walkie-talkie car heritage tour of East Tyrone</li> <li>Day trip to Ulster Museum with guided tour</li> <li>Guided heritage tour of the River Blackwater on the Blackwater Community Barge.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
The Way Forward – Sustaining our Great Place	30/09/2021	£2,000	A series of workshops and stakeholder engagements which would result in the development of a three year forward plan.	Following a tendering process, Venture Folk Ltd. were appointed to complete the forward plan. Under strict Covid-19 controls, face-to-face public engagement has taken place with local stakeholders and the community. Social media and online forums have also been utilised to safely engage with the general public. A vital part of "The Way Forward" is a full application for funding to deliver a partnership project for 2022-2025 with agencies such as Coalisland & District Development Association, Coalisland Training Services, Craic Theatre, Island Turf Craft and Bog Museum, Tyrone Crafted Glass, Diane McCormick Ceramics and others. The outcome would be a heritage experience in Coalisland involving museums, craft and theatre.
<b>Total:</b>		<b>£3,000</b>		



## Appendix 2

By email from Sharon McGowan

Mr Adrian McCreesh  
Chief Executive  
Mid Ulster District Council  
Council Offices  
50 Ballyronan Road  
Magherafelt  
Co Londonderry  
BT45 6EN

North West Development Office  
West Team  
Boaz House  
Scarffe's Entry  
OMAGH  
Co Tyrone  
BT78 1JG

Telephone: (028) 82255516  
Facsimile: (028)  
Email: Sharon.mcgowan@communities-ni.gov.uk

Our reference: NWDO/W/RV/CLD/01/21

Date: 17 September 2021

Project Reference No	NWDO/W/RV/CLD/01/21
Project Applicant	Mid Ulster District Council
Project Title	Coalisland Revitalisation
Amount of Grant	£250,000
Period of Grant	20 September 2021 – 31 March 2022
Financial Systems & Controls Assessment rating ( If appropriate)	Robust

Dear Adrian

### 1. Award Approval

The Department for Communities ("the Department") is pleased to inform you

that your application for Grant funding towards the above project has been successful.

Your application is approved on the basis of the details set out in the application form, which you submitted on 13th August 2021 and any other detail provided throughout the assessment process prior to the date of this letter. Specifically, Grant is offered on condition that the project delivers its aims and produces the agreed performance targets/outputs and pattern of expenditure set out in this Contract for Funding. Approval is subject to your acceptance of all the conditions set out in this letter.

## **2. Definitions**

In this Letter:-

**“the Organisation”** means Mid Ulster District Council

**“the Project”** means Coalisland Revitalisation and as further defined under (revenue) items and (capital items) below.

**“the Grant”** means a sum up to a maximum of £250,000 of which:

**“capital items”** means Environmental Improvements at Lineside, new festive lighting, development of a new brand for Coalisland and associated merchandise;

**“the project start and completion date”** means the day by which the project must start and be completed so as to achieve the performance outputs as specified in paragraph 3 below.

**“the performance outputs”** means the performance outputs specified in the Schedule hereto (see section 18);

**“the equality legislation”** means the statutory provisions from time to time in force in Northern Ireland in relation to discrimination on the grounds of race, disability, sexual orientation, gender or political opinion;

### **3. Funding Period and Termination**

The Organisation shall not commence the Project before 20 September 2021 and shall end the Project no later than 31 March 2022.

The Organisation should carry out and complete the Project in order to achieve the Performance Outputs by 31 March 2022. The final claim for payment should be submitted as soon as possible after the project end date.

The Department shall be under no obligation to make payment on foot of any claim received after the expiry of a period of 3 months from the Project completion date in the case of revenue and equipment Grants, or in the case of construction and refurbishment Grants, the expiry of a period of 12 months from the project completion date.

The Department reserves the right to terminate this Contract for Funding at any time by giving 3 months written notice to the Organisation of termination. Any liabilities properly incurred or earned before the date of termination will be payable by the Department in accordance with the terms of this Contract for Funding.

### **4. Preconditions**

Prior to the release of the Grant under this Contract for Funding the Organisation shall:

- (i) Ensure that all aspects of the project are procured in accordance with agreed Northern Ireland Public Procurement Policy (NIPPP);
- (ii) The Department is satisfied with the cost and implementation plan for the project.

## **5. Default**

If:-

- (i) any information provided by the Organisation or any representative of the Organisation in connection with or for the purposes of this contract and whether before or after the date of this letter is misleading or incorrect in any material respect;
- (ii) the Organisation is in breach of any obligation on the part of the Organisation contained in this letter and such breach is incapable of remedy or if capable of remedy remains unremedied for a period of 30 days after written notice by the Department;
- (iii) an order is made or an effective resolution is passed for the winding up of the Organisation or a Receiver is appointed over the undertaking or a material part of the undertaking of the Organisation;
- (iv) the Organisation is unable to pay its debts within the meaning of Article 103 of the Insolvency (NI) Order 1989;
- (v) an administration order is made in respect of the Organisation,

then in any such event or events the Department shall be under no obligation to make any payment or further payments of the Grant and the Organisation shall forthwith on written demand by the Department repay the whole of the amount of the Grant paid under this letter or such lesser amount as the Department may at its sole discretion so determine. Furthermore in the event of the Organisation defaulting under section 5 (i) of the contract, criminal proceedings may be instigated against the Organisation under Article 4 of the Social Need Order (NI) 1986 as the Department may at its sole discretion so determine.

## 6. Grant Conditions

- (i) The Grant (a breakdown of which is set out in the Schedule hereto) shall only be made in response to claims in writing using the Department's official claim form.
- (ii) As your Council has been awarded a Robust Risk Rating by the Department, only vouching of original invoices or paid receipts for actual expenditure incurred shall be carried out.
- (iii) The Grant towards agreed revenue or capital items may in exceptional circumstances be made in advance and claims in respect of such items shall accordingly be accompanied by an estimate of the expenditure on such items which the Organisation expects to incur during the period (which shall not exceed 3 months) to which the claim relates. Where payment is made in advance, original invoices in respect of actual expenditure incurred must subsequently be sent to the Department within agreed timescales. The Department will then make adjustments as necessary to the next claim. All further claims shall also be accompanied by verified evidence acceptable to the Department including **original** receipts and invoices for expenditure on such items during the immediately preceding claim period.
- (iv) Grant shall only be payable in respect of goods or equipment which are new, unless prior written consent from the Department is obtained.
- (v) Grant shall not be payable in respect of VAT recoverable by the Organisation.
- (vi) A dedicated current account must be maintained for the disbursement of all project expenditure. Details of the account must be provided on the form provided with this letter. The Grant will be paid directly into this bank account. The bank account should be identified as a Departmental funded

project account and must be maintained by the Organisation for the purposes of the Project.

- (vii) Organisations involved in the delivery of multiple projects may already have a financial system using cost centres rather than multiple bank accounts. Such organisations may wish to negotiate with the Department to retain this system for the purposes of managing the project. These negotiations will require the Applicant to demonstrate to the Department's satisfaction that the systems in place guarantee a clear audit trail with regard to all aspects of the project finances. Should subsequent system checks reveal that the Department's requirements are not being met in this respect then the use of a dedicated bank account will become mandatory.
- (viii) The Department will make every effort to pay claims promptly but accepts no liability in respect of loss attributable to delay in the payment of claims or to any suspension, reduction or cancellation of Grant.

## **7. General Conditions**

The Organisation shall:-

- (i) **grant use** - apply the Grant solely for the purposes of carrying out and implementing the Project;
- (ii) **changes** - immediately inform the Department in writing of any circumstances which will or may affect the ability of the Organisation to carry out the Project; (Examples include: major changes to the project; the potential failure to meet agreed outputs/targets; posts becoming vacant through sickness; Maternity Leave; and any change in the financial relationship with any other funder, including cessation or reduction in other funders' awards; This list is not exhaustive)
- (iii) immediately inform the Department in writing of any proposed change to the overall expenditure for the project or profile amounts for each category of expenditure as set out in the Breakdown of Costs/ Expenditure

Schedule. \*Organisations should note that the Department will only consider re-profiling in exceptional circumstances and transferring of funds, secured with the agreement of the Department, will be restricted between similar categories of expenditure;

- (iv) not without the prior written consent of the Department vary or alter the Project; its use, financing or ownership; start and end dates;
- (v) **constitution** - not alter or vary it's memorandum or articles of association without the prior written consent of the Department;
- (vi) **assignment** - not without the prior written consent of the Department assign or in any way encumber this contract for funding or any benefit derived or to be derived by the Organisation under it;
- (vii) **duplicate funding** - not seek, or make any application for or accept any financial assistance from any other Government Department, Agency or other funding body in respect of the expenditure for which Grant is or may be payable under the terms of this letter; provided always that the provision shall not apply to financial assistance which may be payable by another funding body but the Department shall be entitled to reduce the Grant available under this letter by an amount if equal to such financial assistance;

You have confirmed to the department that Mid Ulster District Council will provide the project management for this project. You must advise the Department immediately if there is any change to this.

You must advise the Department immediately if there are any changes

- (viii) **insurance** - insure any items of an insurable nature which have been obtained with the benefit of the Grant to the full replacement value thereof and furnish the Department with copies of all relevant policies of insurance on demand by the Department;
- (ix) insure in the name of the Organisation all buildings or premises which are now or may in the future be erected and/or grant aided, against loss or



damage by fire or theft, for a sum equal to the cost of their reinstatement or replacement and keep the same so insured;

- (x) if the buildings or premises so insured, are in any part thereof destroyed or damaged, expend without delay the monies received under such insurance in rebuilding, reinstating or replacing the same;
- (xi) **maintenance** - maintain in good condition all property, equipment, machinery, furniture, fixtures and fittings and assets which the Department has funded or part funded;
- (xii) **inventory of assets** – establish and maintain an inventory of all fixed assets acquired, built or improved wholly or partly using the Department's Grant, whether owned by the applicant or third parties. An asset is defined as an item that will not be used up within 12 months and which is not intended to be sold before the end of its useful life. The inventory should show the date of purchase; description of the asset; net price paid; location of the title deeds; serial or identification numbers; location of the asset; date of disposal; and sale of proceeds net of VAT.
- (xiii) **disposal of assets** – not dispose of any asset without the prior authorisation of the Department. If any asset obtained with the benefit of the Grant is disposed of within 4 years from the date of acceptance of this letter, the Organisation shall, on demand, repay to the Department so much of the Grant as the Department considers is reasonable;
- (xiv) **financial controls** - establish and maintain effective financial control systems in relation to its operations generally but specifically in relation to the Project
- (xv) maintain proper and effective accounting records which identify individual financial transactions relating to the Project, including original invoices and receipts;
- (xvi) **provision of records** - from time to time upon request by the Department furnish the Department or the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland with all such financial accounting and other information relating directly or indirectly to the Project as the Department

or the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland may request. Original documents or verified true copies must also be produced upon request. Failure to produce the original documents or satisfactory agreed substitutes could result in requests for repayment of Grant;

- (xvii) **access** - permit the Department, the Departments Agents and the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland to enter upon any premises owned or occupied by the Organisation for the purpose of inspecting any asset or accounting record relating to the Project.
- (xviii) **retention of records** - ensure that all records and information relating to the implementation of the Project and its financing are retained for a period of not less than 7 years following the last payment of Grant under this letter and make any such record available to the Department and the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland for inspection upon request by the Department or the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland. If you intend to claim Grant on eligible expenditure made by others acting on your behalf you must ensure that you have a legally binding agreement with them which specifies what information is to be provided and when. You must ensure that those acting for you have original documentary evidence to support all the payments they make for you and for which you wish to claim Grant;
- (xix) **publicity** - include appropriate references to the assistance made available by the Department to the Organisation under this letter in any publicity or brochures or other material produced by or on behalf of the Organisation and in which the Project is mentioned.

In addition the Organisation will provide copies of all publicity material relating to the project including press cuttings, advertisements or other relevant details. Adequate advance warning should also be given of forthcoming events and/or launches etc. The Department shall be entitled to publish details of the assistance referred to in the Contract for Funding at such times and in such a manner as it may decide. The Organisation shall provide any further information about the project requested by the Department and shall permit the publication of that and any other related information.

- (xx) **data protection** - acknowledge that information on applications and claims for payment for Grant assistance is stored on computer and in accordance with the Data Protection Act (DPA) 2018, and that such information may be subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2000; in addition this shall include any applicable national implementing Laws as amended from time to time including (i) the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and the Law Enforcement Directive (LED) and (ii) Data Protection Act (DPA) 2018 to the extent that it relates to processing of personal data and privacy; and (iii) all applicable Law about the processing of personal data and privacy;
- (xxi) **overpayments** - shall repay the Department any overpayment forthwith on first demand or becoming aware that Grant has been overpaid, whichever first occurs;
- (xxii) **political or religious** - ensure that the Grant shall not be used for the purpose of or in anyway connected with the promoting of any political party or religious viewpoint. No aspect of the activity being funded should be party political in intention, use or presentation or likely to be perceived as discriminatory. Any activities, such as campaigning, by the Organisation must be in furtherance of, and ancillary to, its main purpose.
- (xxiii) **training** - attend and participate in such workshops and training sessions as the Department deems appropriate.
- (xxiv) **statutory charges (capital projects)** - acknowledge that the conditions of repayment of financial assistance may in accordance with Article 4(8) of the Social Need (Northern Ireland) Order 1986, be a Statutory Charge upon the property;
- (xxv) **legislation** - comply with the equality legislation to the extent that the same applies to the Organisation. No aspect of the activity being funded should be party political in intention, use or presentation or likely to be perceived as discriminatory on the grounds of race, disability, sexual orientation, gender or political opinion. Any activities, such as campaigning, by the Organisation must be in furtherance of, and ancillary to, its main purpose;

(xxvi) **liability** - by accepting this letter acknowledge that the Department accepts no liability to the Organisation other than as expressly provided for, in and subject to, the terms and conditions stated in this letter. Further, the Organisation shall indemnify the Department against all actions, proceedings, costs, claims, demands and liabilities arising out of, in respect of, or in connection with this letter, caused or contributed to by the negligence or default of the Organisation, or by any circumstances within its control.

(xxvii) **employment** - the Department accepts no responsibility or liability for the staff employed on the Project. The Applicant shall be the employer of staff required for the Project and shall be responsible for all matters in connection with their employment. The Applicant shall comply with the requirements of all EC Directives and legislation from time to time in force relating to working conditions, health and safety at work etc. The Applicant shall comply with the requirements of the Sex Discrimination (NI) Order 1976 and 1988, the Fair Employment and Treatment (NI) Order 1998, the Race Relations (NI) Order 1997, the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 and Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998 and any enactments amending, extending or replacing the same.

(xxviii) **conflict of interest** – declare any actual or potential Conflicts of Interest which could exist as a direct consequence of the Organisation's use of the funding to be provided by the Department and record same in a Register of Conflicts.

(xxix) **Public Accounts Committee** – attend Public Accounts Committee hearings on request and fully co-operate in an honest and candid manner at such hearings.

## 8. Fraud

- (i) The organisation (and/or its representatives) may be prosecuted if it fails, without reasonable excuse, to comply with any condition subject to which financial assistance has been given to the organisation requiring it to inform the Department of any event whereby the financial assistance becomes repayable.
- (ii) The Department may by notice require the organisation to furnish to the Department such information, or to produce for examination on behalf of the Department such books, records or other documents, as may be specified in the notice for the purpose of enabling the Department to determine whether any condition subject to which the financial assistance is given is satisfied or is being complied with or whether the financial assistance has become repayable in whole or in part in accordance with any such condition.
- (iii) The organisation (and/or its representatives) may be prosecuted if in purported compliance with a notice issued under paragraph (ii) it knowingly or recklessly makes any statement or produces any document which is false in a material particular.
- (iv) The organisation (and/or its representatives) may be prosecuted under Article 4 of the Social Need Order (NI) 1986, if without reasonable excuse, it fails to comply with a notice under paragraph (ii).
- (v) It will be the responsibility of the Organisation to take whatever action is necessary to minimise the risk of fraud and to notify the Department immediately of any instances of attempted, suspected or proven fraud. Following a Departmental investigation all instances of suspected fraud will be reported to the Police and criminal proceedings may be instigated if deemed appropriate.

## **9. Sharing of Information**

All Government Departments, Agencies and other funding bodies may share information to enable them to prevent and detect fraudulent applications and to co-ordinate the processing of complementary applications. Accordingly, information provided by the Organisation during the application and assessment process, monitoring returns and any other information provided by the Organisation may be made available to other Departments/Agencies for the purpose of ensuring the accuracy of information and preventing or detecting crime. Such information may also be placed in the public domain.

## **10. Monitoring & Evaluation**

The Department may from time to time monitor and evaluate the Project by reference to the Performance Outputs and the Organisation shall provide such information and assistance for these purposes as the Department may request.

The Department may also from time to time require the Organisation to provide evidence that the Organisation have fulfilled their statutory obligation in relation to HMRC in respect of PAYE and National Insurance contributions.

## **11. Withholding of Grant**

If the Department has instructed an investigation to be carried out in relation to the Project, the Department shall be entitled pending the outcome of any such investigation to withhold payment of the Grant or any part or parts thereof; provided always that payment of the Grant shall be reinstated as soon as is reasonably practicable after the conclusion of the investigation unless an event of default under paragraph 5 has occurred.

The Department may withhold all or part of the Grant and may require all or part of the Grant to be repaid if it considers that you have not complied with any of the terms and conditions in this Contract for Funding.

## **12. Notice**

Any letter, notice or demand by the Department shall be sufficiently served on the Organisation if it is delivered by hand at, or sent by post to, the Organisation's last known address.

### **13. Duration**

The obligations of the Organisation under this letter shall remain in force for a period of 4 years following the date of acceptance of this letter; with the exception of 7 (xviii), which shall remain in force for a period of 7 years following the date of the last payment of Grant under this letter in line with legislative requirements.

### **14. Acceptance**

This letter is issued in duplicate and accordingly if the Organisation is prepared to accept the foregoing offer please return one complete copy of this letter duly signed and dated on behalf of the Organisation.

In accepting this offer the Organisation is agreeing to comply with the conditions contained in this letter and any guidance that the Department subsequently issues.

This letter may be made available to other Departments/Agencies and other funding bodies for the purposes of preventing or detecting fraud.

### **15. Availability**

The foregoing offer shall remain open for a period of 4 weeks from the date of this letter. Failure to return one complete copy of this letter duly signed and dated on behalf of the Organisation within this period shall result in the offer being deemed as withdrawn.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sharon Mc Gowan". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

**Sharon Mc Gowan**



## OFFICIAL GRANT ACCEPTANCE

Project Reference No	NWDO/W/RV/CLD/01/21
Project Applicant	Mid Ulster District Council
Project Title	Coalisland Revitalisation
Amount of Grant	£250,000
Period of Grant	20 September 2021 - 31 March 2022

I **Adrian McCreesh** have authority **on behalf of**  
***(Name of Chairperson in Block Capitals)***

**Mid Ulster District Council**  
***(Name of Organisation in Block Capitals)***

to accept the offer of Grant set out in the letter dated 17 September 2021 and agree to deliver the above project on the terms and conditions therein.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signed by**  
**(Chief Executive)**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Witnessed by**  
**(Registered Office Bearer)**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Name in Block Capitals**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Name in Block Capitals**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

**BANK DETAILS**

Project Reference No	NWDO/W/RV/CLD/01/21
Project Applicant	Mid Ulster District Council
Project Title	Coalisland Revitalisation
Amount of Grant	£250,000
Period of Grant	20 September 2021 - 31 March 2022

**Please complete Bank details below.**

**Name of Organisation:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name of Account:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Bank Name :** \_\_\_\_\_

**Bank Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Sort Code:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Account Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signed by**  
**(Chairperson)**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Witnessed by**  
**(Registered Office Bearer)**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Name in Block Capitals**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Name in Block Capitals**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

## 18 Project Targets and Output Measures

Target Date:	31 December 2021	Output Measure:	Initial stakeholder consultations held Design agreed
Target Description:	Procure a brand consultant and agree on a design and merchandise		

Target Date:	31 March 2022	Output Measure:	Certificate of practical completion
Target Description:	Complete environmental improvement of (Approx Area of Site 4344m2) scheme at Lineside		

Target Date:	31 September 2021	Output Measure:	Festive lighting procured
Target Description:	Purchase new festive lighting and Christmas tree		

Target Date:	31 March 2023	Output Measure:	Increased Civic Pride
Target Description:	Council to complete all post project surveys and complete a Post Project Evaluation (PPE) within a 12 month period of completion		

Target Date:		Output Measure:	Businesses using the branding
Target Description:	Implementation of the new Town Centre brand in to 60% of all business in Coalisland		

Target Date:	31 March 2023	Output Measure:	Footfall increasing
Target Description:	To increase footfall by 25% on the Lineside scheme		

## 19 Breakdown of Grant Award (by financial year)

Eligible Expenditure Category and Breakdown	Total Grant Award	Year 1
	From:20 September 2021 To: 31 March 2022	From:20 September 2021 To: 31 March 2022
<b>Festive Lighting</b>	£80,000	£80,000
<b>Lineside EI Scheme</b>	£145,000	£145,000
<b>Branding &amp; Merchandise</b>	£25,000	£25,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>£250,000</b>	<b>£250,000</b>

## Expenditure Schedule

\* These are anticipated amounts and dates and should only be taken as a guide. Normally Grant will be released on receipt of paid invoices/ receipts up to the maximum as detailed on the Breakdown of Grant Award and paid quarterly during the period of the project.

<b>Date(s) Expenditure Due To Be Incurred</b>	<b>*Anticipated Amount</b>	<b>Brief breakdown of Grant amount against eligible expenditure category</b>	<b>*Anticipated Payment dates</b>	<b>Related Terms and Conditions (as per CFF)</b>
<b>20 Sept 2021 - 31 March 2022</b>	<b>£145,000</b>	<b>Environmental Improvement scheme – to include Paving &amp; landscaping</b>	<b>31<sup>st</sup> March 2022</b>	<b>Claim form with all supporting documentation</b>
	<b>£25,000</b>	<b>Branding &amp; Merchandise</b>	<b>31<sup>st</sup> December 2021</b>	<b>Claim form with all supporting documentation</b>
	<b>£80,000</b>	<b>Festive Lighting</b>	<b>31<sup>st</sup> December 2021</b>	<b>Claim form with all supporting documentation</b>



<b>Report on</b>	Leisure Disability Provision
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	14 <sup>th</sup> October 2021
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Kieran Gordon, Head of Leisure
<b>Contact Officer</b>	Leigh Gilmore, Participation Manager

<b>Is this report restricted for confidential business?</b>	Yes	
If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	No	x

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	Previously at the full Council meeting in July 2021, it was resolved that a report be brought to a future committee outlining the current provision in leisure centres for those with additional needs (minute reference: C154/21)
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	As leisure facilities operations begin to re-emerge from previous closures as a result of Covid 19, services have had to reflect the Covid 19 guidance. As easements to restrictions have gradually been implemented in recent months, leisure programmes have started to resume on a phased approach.
2.2	Officers have been actively reviewing their active lifestyle plan delivery model in light of the challenges presented with the covid pandemic in order to meet objectives agreed within the Council's Community Plan 2017-2027 along with contributing towards the Council's Anti-Poverty Action Plan. As previously approved in September 2021, part of the annual active lifestyle plan is the pending implementation of a new pilot programme of activities to be delivered within the leisure service.
2.3	This report seeks to specifically outline the current provision in leisure centres for those with additional needs and includes details of the specific elements of the active lifestyle plan that contribute towards this.
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Report</b>
3.1	The Participation unit of the Leisure and Outdoor Recreation Department wishes to increase opportunities for Mid Ulster District Council residents to participate in a range of scheduled structured and non-structured recreational activities.
3.2	<p>The Participation team's active lifestyle plan broadly focuses on the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Macmillan Move More (funded programme until July 2022)</li> <li>• Physical Activity Referral Scheme (rolling annual programme subject to recurring funding from the Public Health Agency)</li> <li>• Get Out Get Active (GOGA)</li> <li>• Holiday activity schemes</li> <li>• Support/guidance to the community for Council's various sports and participation led grants</li> </ul>

3.3	As previously approved in September 2021, part of the annual active lifestyle plan is the pending implementation of a new pilot programme of activities to be delivered within the leisure service. This will be delivered by specialised coaches via appointed activity providers within leisure facility environments across the District and will focus on targeting specific groupings along with aiming to enhance the profile and services of current Mid Ulster District Leisure facilities.
3.4	Over the past two years, Mid Ulster District Council has benefited from DfC's Access and Inclusion Grant which has brought about the installation of two bespoke changing places facilities (Dungannon LC and MUSA) along with hi-riser changing benches across many leisure sites. Additionally there is work pending across many leisure facilities to include installation of automatic doors, hearing loop systems along with a new Poolpod to assist entry into the swimming pool.
3.5	Appendix A details existing provision for those with additional needs along with the additional new pilot programmes having a strand that focuses specifically on Inclusive Coordination and this new pilot is intended to bring enhanced access to programmes during this 6 month pilot programme period for this specific theme that seek to complement existing provision and programmes.
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
<b>4.1</b>	<b>Financial, Human Resources &amp; Risk Implications</b>
	Financial: Planned activity can be derived via existing revenue budgets for 2021/2022. As approved in September 2021, the new pilot overall programme to be delivered in partnership with Good Relations and a budget allocation of £5,000.
	Human: Officer time to co-ordinate, implement and monitor the planned activity. Can be delivered within existing resources with support from specialised coaches via appointed activity providers (costs of which can be derived via existing revenue budgets for 2021/2022 and within Council procurement guidelines).
	Risk Management: Considered in line with Council Policies and Procedures.
<b>4.2</b>	<b>Screening &amp; Impact Assessments</b>
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: Considered in line with Council Policies and Procedures. Available on request.
	Rural Needs Implications: Considered in line with Council Policies and Procedures. Available on request.
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Recommendation(s)</b>
5.1	To note the contents of this report.
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Documents Attached &amp; References</b>
6.1	Appendix A – Provision in leisure centres for those with additional needs.







## Appendix A – Provision in leisure centres for those with additional needs.

### (1) Memberships and General Admission Pricing

Members approved the updated Leisure Pricing for the period April 2021 to March 2022. Itemised within this pricing document was all the areas that concession pricing is applicable. Reduced rates are available to those living with a disability under the MUDC Leisure Departments priority scheme, prices dependant on chosen activity and a carer is free.

This builds upon previous Council decisions, specifically January 2015, where Members approved the leisure approach to groupings that would be eligible for concession pricing (50% discount) along with the mechanism for promotional pricing (based on market conditions):

- *Priority Groups: 50% discount - Senior Citizens: 65 plus, Junior: Under 18*
- *Student: Full Time Students, People with disabilities: People with disabilities as described in the Disability Discrimination Act 1995.*
- *Management have the discretion (agreed by the Director) to apply discounted pricing packages, varied times and activities in order to market less attractive facilities, low usage periods and to promote Sports Development and Health and Wellbeing initiatives.*

### (2) New Proposed Pilot Programme: Planned Activity within Mid Ulster District Council Leisure Facilities October 2021 – 31st March 2022

All activities including dates/times/booking/payment arrangements to be advertised via social media, website and also within leisure facilities.

Inclusive Coordination			
Activity	Target Group	Location	Session
<b>Developmental coordination disorder (DCD):</b>	6yrs-18yrs	Dungannon LC Maghera LC Meadowbank Sports Arena Mid Ulster Sports Arena	1 Afternoon per week – no school holidays (29 sessions)
Locations x 4. 1 hour session. 1 day per week. Max Numbers anticipated per session: 20			
A multi sport club focusing on facilitating primary school aged children with Dyspraxia/DCD to do things at their own pace, and for parents to get information and support.			
<b>Autism Club:</b>	6yrs-18yrs	Dungannon LC Greenvale LC Maghera LC Mid Ulster Sports Arena	1 Afternoon per week – no school holidays (29 sessions)
Locations x 4. 1 x hour session. 1 x day per week. Max Numbers anticipated per session: 10			
A multi activity club focusing on facilitating primary school aged children with Autism to do things at their own pace, and for parents to get information and support.			
<b>Disability Hub:</b>	6yrs-18yrs 18-64	Mid Ulster Sports Arena	1 Afternoon per week – no school holidays (29 sessions)
Location x 1. 1 x hour session. 1 x day per week. Max Numbers anticipated per session: 10			
A multi activity session for adults and or children using the inclusive sports equipment, cycles and chairs.			
<b>Autism Play:</b>	All Ages	Cookstown LC	1 Afternoon per week – no school holidays (29 sessions)
Locations x 3		Dungannon LC	1 Afternoon per week – no school holidays (29 sessions)
1 x hour session 1 x day per week		Greenvale LC	1 Afternoon per week – no school holidays (29 sessions)

A designated play session that will be catered towards individuals and families – arrangements include use soft play area (no open session or group bookings taking place during this time).			
<b>Autism/PAN Disability Swim Sessions:</b>	All Ages	Cookstown LC	1 session per week – no school holidays (29 sessions)
Locations x 3		Dungannon LC	1 session per week – no school holidays (29 sessions)
1 x hour session 1 x day per week		Greenvale LC	1 session per week – no school holidays (29 sessions)
A designated swim session that will be catered towards individuals and families with Autism/PAN Disability – arrangements include exclusive use pool sessions (no open swim session, users group bookings or swim lessons taking place during this time). Any main sensory elements aim to be reduced (ie. music, lighting). Support for exclusive use of changing rooms both pre and post sessions.			

### **(3) Additional Leisure Service Facilities and Programmes**

#### **Pool Pod**

Two facilities, Greenvale LC & Cookstown LC have pool pods which allow access to swimming pools for those that find traditional steps difficult. At present pool pods are only available for deck level pools (therefore this unfortunately means Dungannon LC cannot avail of installation) but its Officers understanding that design modifications are nearly completed for a pool pod which will be capable of being used on pools with scum channels. An additional poolpod for Greenvale LC (as a result of DfC Access & Inclusion funding) will be installed later in 2021.

#### **Sign Video**

Recently Council implemented a pilot for Sign Video at various Council facilities. This is a service which seeks to benefit our customers who are deaf or are hard of hearing. This service seeks to provide instant access to a Sign Language Interpreter for customers who use British Sign Language (BSL). The service also caters for Irish Sign Language (ISL) users on a request basis. The service is free from users own home, as well as being simple, fast and secure. The service currently gives users access to an online BSL interpreter at the following leisure venues, Monday to Friday from 9am-5pm:

- Cookstown Leisure Centre
- Mid Ulster Sports Arena
- Dungannon Leisure Centre
- Greenvale Leisure Centre
- <https://www.midulstercouncil.org/your-council/equality/sign-video>

#### **Disability Sports Hub**

Previously in September 2017, Members approved a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) and Development Plan for a partnership with Disability Sport NI on the provision of a Disability Sports Hub based at Mid Ulster Sports Arena. This initiative seeks to encourage and support people with disabilities to participate in sport and active recreation through the Disability Sports Hub and Disability Sport NI funded equipment to the value of £45,500 for the project along with providing bespoke training on use of the equipment. This equipment includes tandem cycles, tricycles, hand cycles and sport wheel chairs. Activities include inclusive cycling and the establishment of a junior Paralympic club. Whilst the initial two year partnership approach which includes a funded Disability Hub Activity Coordinator has ended, Council Officers are continuing to ensure the legacy of this arrangement along with the use of the equipment is maximised to its full potential where possible as part of the new pilot active recreation plan.

## GOGA

Get Out Get Active (GOGA) is an exciting programme that supports disabled and non-disabled people to enjoy being active together and is delivered by 1 x co-ordinator for the Mid Ulster District Council area. Funded by Spirit of 2012, all partners are focused on getting some of the UK's least active people moving more through fun and inclusive activities.

	<b>Mon</b>	<b>Tues</b>	<b>Thur</b>	<b>Fri</b>	<b>Sunday</b>
<b>Morning</b>	Multiple Zoom sessions	<b>Group:</b> Over 50's <b>Activity:</b> Exercise <b>Dates:</b> July to Dec <b>Venue:</b> Dungannon LC	<b>Group:</b> Mix disabilities <b>Activity:</b> Dog walk <b>Dates:</b> Ongoing <b>Venue:</b> Various	<b>Group:</b> Mixed Group <b>Activity:</b> Nordic Walking <b>Dates:</b> Mid Sept to Dec <b>Venue:</b> Knockmannny Forrest	<b>Group:</b> Mix disabilities <b>Activity:</b> Cycling <b>Dates:</b> TBC <b>Venue:</b> MUSA
			<b>Wed</b>		
<b>Afternoon/ Evening</b>	<b>Group:</b> Down Syndrome group. <b>Activity:</b> Dance <b>Dates:</b> August to December <b>Venue:</b> Tamnamore Community Centre	<b>Group:</b> Mental Health Group <b>Activity:</b> Pilates/boxercise <b>Dates:</b> Ongoing <b>Venue:</b> Niamh Louise Foundation	<b>Group:</b> Autism <b>Activity:</b> Multi-skills <b>Dates:</b> Ongoing <b>Venue:</b> Moneymore Rec  <b>Group:</b> Children with PD <b>Activity:</b> Wheelie Active <b>Dates:</b> Mid-September to Mid-December. <b>Venue:</b> Moneymore Rec  <b>Group:</b> Adults with PD <b>Activity:</b> Boccia <b>Dates:</b> End of September <b>Venue:</b> Dungannon area		

## Swimming Lessons

Special Schools within the District are participants in the School Swimming Programme hosted in Dungannon LC and Greenvale LC which includes hydro therapy sessions. Learning Support Units in many Primary and Post Primary Schools attend the School Swimming Programme in Cookstown, Dungannon and Greenvale Leisure Centres.

**Physical Activity Referral Scheme** (rolling annual programme subject to recurring funding from the Public Health Agency)

Selection Criteria -

Anyone aged 16 and over who currently has one or more of the following conditions:

- high blood pressure
- controlled diabetes or a strong family history of diabetes
- heart disease or risk factors associated with coronary heart disease
- anxiety, stress, depression and controlled mental health problems
- overweight or obese
- well-controlled lung problems such as asthma, bronchitis or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
- mild to moderate joint problems such as osteoporosis
- another condition that does not prevent you taking part in physical activity

#### Referral Pathway:

Via GP or health care professional who will assess suitability and will complete a referral form and send it to a leisure centre. The leisure centre will then contact you to make your first appointment.

Each participant is eligible for discounted leisure centre membership upon conclusion of their 12 week programme.

Activities	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Physical Activity Referral Programme</b>	Maghera LC Dungannon LC	Greenvale LC Maghera LC Dungannon LC	Maghera LC Dungannon LC	Greenvale LC Maghera LC Dungannon LC	Maghera LC Dungannon LC
*Cookstown LC in Development & Pending Referrals					

#### Macmillan Move More

Move More NI is funded for three years by Macmillan Cancer Support (due to end July 2022) working in partnership with physical activity providers, local councils and health and social care trusts all over Northern Ireland to provide the support that people living with cancer need to improve their fitness.

Each participant is eligible for discounted leisure centre membership upon conclusion of their 12 week programme.

Activities	Mon	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	Cookstown LC	Greenvale LC		Dungannon LC	Dungannon LC
<b>1.Spin 2.Cancer Rehab</b>	9.30am 10.00am				
<b>1.Spin 2.Pilates 3.Open Gym</b>		10.30am 11.15am 11.40am			
<b>1.Open Gym 2.Cancer Rehab</b>				10.00am 10.30am	
<b>1.Open Gym 2.Pilates</b>					9.30am 10.00am
<b>Pre-Hab</b>	1-1	1-1		1-1 x2	1-1 x2
<b>Outdoor walks</b>			Magherafelt area		Dungannon area

#### (4) Leisure Facility Developments

Over the past two years, Mid Ulster District Council has benefited from DfC's Access and Inclusion Grant:

- Automatic doors and shutters installation at Mid Ulster Sports Arena (2019/2020)
- Aquatic wheel chairs at various sites (2019/2020)

- Changing Places installation at Dungannon Leisure Centre (2020/2021)
- Changing Places installation at Mid Ulster Sports Arena (2020/2021)
- Hi-Riser Benches installations at Dungannon, Cookstown and Maghera leisure centres. (2020/2021)
- Pool Pod system installation at Greenvale Leisure Centre (pending 2021/2022)
- Hearing Loop Systems installation at Dungannon LC, Cookstown LC, Mid Ulster Sports Arena, Moneymore Recreation Centre, Greenvale LC, Meadowbank Sports Arena, Maghera LC (pending 2021/2022)
- Automatic door installations at Mid Ulster Sports Arena, Maghera LC, Cookstown LC, Greenvale LC, Tobermore Golf Centre (pending 2021/2022)





<b>Report on</b>	Master Plan/Business Case - Maghera Walkways
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	Thursday 14th October 2021
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	N Hill Head of Parks
<b>Contact Officer</b>	A Reid Parks & Countryside Development Officer

<b>Is this report restricted for confidential business?</b>	Yes	
If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	No	x

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	To update Committee on the appointment of Outdoor Recreation Northern Ireland (ORNI) to develop a Master Plan/Business Case for the potential development of lands between Mullagh Road / Tobermore Road as an outdoor recreational green space for the Maghera area.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	In April 2021 approval was sought to appoint a suitable qualified consultancy team to carry out a feasibility study into the development of lands at Mullagh Road, Maghera. Minute Ref D065/21 (App 1 refers).
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Report</b>
3.1	Following Council approval a quotation exercise was carried out. Quotations were sent to six companies. One company submitted a return and was successful in the award of the tender.
3.2	The successful company was ORNI with a tender price of £14,325.00
	<p><b>Methodology</b></p> <p>ORNI proposes the following approach to complete the project within the 19-week timescale, commencing Monday 27<sup>th</sup> September 2021 with a completion date 31<sup>st</sup> January 2022.</p> <p><b>Step 1 – Project Foundation</b></p> <p><b>Project Inception Meeting</b> - ORNI will convene an inception meeting with relevant representatives from MUDC to provide the opportunity to gain further insight into the vision and objectives of the project and the practicalities of the site. ORNI understands the study area for this project is adjacent to an ongoing Council project to redevelop the former Maghera High School Site as a new mixed-use Enterprise Centre and Business Park. In addition, ORNI, understands there has been some previous opposition to this proposal due to a demand for a public green</p>

space. The project initiation meeting will allow for confidential discussion regarding the relationship between the ongoing business park project and this project.

**Strategic Context** – ORNI will undertake an examination of the strategic context within which the site would operate. As part of this process, a detailed examination of the Plan's contribution to local and national policies will be undertaken. This will include but not limited to:

- NI Government / Departmental Strategic aims and policy objectives
- Mid Ulster District Council – Corporate Plan, Community Plan, Outdoor Recreation Strategy, Parks and Play Strategy.

**Step 2 – Current Position** - It is essential ORNI understands the current position of the site to identify deficiencies and begin to develop recommendations to improve the current situation. This will provide the foundation for future steps.

**Desk Research** – ORNI will undertake desk research of any existing studies and information relating to the site. It is envisaged this will include:

- Public vs private land ownership
- Land use / management
- Constraints e.g. it is evident the site falls within a flood risk area
- Statutory designations – Built and Natural Heritage
- Plans for adjoining business park and Maghera Development Framework 2018
- Formal and Informal Recreation via external sources such as Strava Global Heat Maps and specialist activity websites / forums

**Fieldwork** – Informed by the aforementioned desk research, ORNI will undertake fieldwork to identify and assess:

- Deficiencies in current provision
- Opportunities for development / positive control points
- Access points
- Supporting infrastructure carrying capacity e.g. approach roads, car parking, visitor services
- Current recreation offering e.g. trail network, signage, waymarking, interpretation
- Topography/ Ground Conditions
- Risks – e.g. Invasive species e.g. Japanese knotweed, anti-social behaviour, informal activity, dumping / hazardous material

**Consultation – ORNI will undertake consultation at two levels**

**a) Key agencies and stakeholders** – This consultation will further inform the findings from desk research and initial fieldwork. For example, consultation may be required as follows:

- **Council staff (and appointed planners)** – re proposals for the business park
- **NED / HED** – re natural and built heritage designations respectively
- **DfI Roads** – re access roads, new entrances, pedestrian crossing points
- **Council Planning Dept** – re all of above

**b) Assessment of need** – The objective of this step is to identify the type and need for intervention at the site. This will ensure that proposed solutions are appropriate for the volume, needs and motivations of those who are most likely to

engage with the site. ORNI believes projects of this nature can only be sustainable in the long-term if it is fully embraced by the local community. It is envisaged an indicative list of topics for the survey will include:

- Views on strengths and deficiencies in current position
- Identification of proposed interventions (facilities / activities / initiatives)
- Discussion around the anticipated demand and potential target audiences for proposed facilities and services

Key consultation tactics will include one-to-one consultation with Council staff / Cllrs, key stakeholders / local community representatives, online public meeting (due to COVID restrictions on gatherings) and an online survey. A summary review will provide the key themes identified through consultation.

**Step 3 - Analysis and Initial Findings** – ORNI will analyse the findings from the aforementioned steps and draw of international best practice and emerging trends in outdoor recreation to prepare an initial options presentation. This will include a SWOT analysis, consultation feedback, proposed vision, proposed priority visitor segments and spatial concept plan. The latter is a GIS map(s) outlining the interdependence of the key components e.g. recreation, biodiversity, built and cultural heritage, linkages to Maghera town. This presentation and facilitated discussion will allow the Council to provide feedback on the key components prior to ORNI working these up in detail within the development plan.

**Step 4 - Concept Development** - Following agreement on initial options, ORNI will undertake further investigations (including further fieldwork and consultation) to undertake a technical assessment of key components envisaged to be (as a minimum) core visitor hub area(s), outdoor recreation activities / trails), educational and social activities, traffic flow and parking.

This will be presented in a detailed Spatial Masterplan (which will demonstrate their interdependence) and be supported by commentary. To inform the preparation of costs, ORNI will avail of extensive database of benchmarked costs gained from previous similar projects. Many of ORNI's costed projects have externally verified by CPD or independent Quantity Surveyors and have been found to be accurate.

Rather than providing distinct 'either or' options, the development plan will include phased options with each phase building upon the other to deliver the vision over a timeline e.g. 3-5 years. Phases / options may include i.e. Do Nothing (Status Quo), Do Minimum, Phase 1, Phase 2 etc. The phases will be presented to provide short, medium and long-term options with benefits and outcomes clearly presented. Each component and therefore phase will be individually costed. Phasing will also be guided by an appraisal of current and forecast external funding opportunities. Recommendation of local business / social economy options to use the site will also be proposed.

**Step 5 – Final Report** - Prior to submitting the final draft report, ORNI will deliver a presentation of final recommendations and facilitate discussion. MUDC will be provided the opportunity to further comment on draft reports, and these will be reflected as appropriate in the final report.

<b>4.0</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
<b>4.1</b>	<b>Financial, Human Resources &amp; Risk Implications</b>
	Financial: £14,325.00 from existing capital programme budget allocations
	Human: Existing staff resources will work alongside appointed consultancy team. No additional staffing resource required.
	Risk Management: In conjunction with Council policies and procedures.
<b>4.2</b>	<b>Screening &amp; Impact Assessments</b>
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: Will be developed as part of the project and in conjunction with Council policies and procedures.
	Rural Needs Implications: Will be developed as part of the project and in conjunction with Council policies and procedures.
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Recommendation(s)</b>
5.1	This interim report is provided for members information at this stage. A further report will present the completed Master Plan/Feasibility Study on completion of the final recommendations as projected for January 2022.
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Documents Attached &amp; References</b>
6.1	App 1 – D065/21 Master Plan/Business Case – Maghera Walkways

Master Plan/Business Case – Maghera Walkways

The Head of Parks presented previously circulated report to seek Council approval to appoint a suitably qualified consultancy team to develop a Master Plan/Business Case for the potential development of lands between Mullagh Road/Tobermore Road as an outdoor recreational green space for the Maghera area.

Councillor Corry said that she like to propose the item as it was very welcome news for Maghera as the Walled Garden has been a huge success and a well-loved and well used feature in Maghera and had also increased the appetite for further development of outdoor recreational greenspace for the village. She said that getting outdoors has been a great importance for people, especially during the past year for physical and mental health and this addition to increase greenspace would be a great asset with community input to the masterplan and the creation of habitat, biodiversity and conservation, natural play and a network of community trails in the area. She stated that this would add to enhance the Walled Garden and the Largantogher Walkway and looked forward to seeing the development of the project.

Councillor Black seconded the recommendation and concurred with Councillor Corry's comments regarding the appetite within the local community for some time for further greenspace to be provided and was no doubt that these calls would be strengthened due to the importance that has been placed on greenspace over this last year since the 12 – Development Committee (15.04.21) onset of the pandemic. He said that he believed on the progress on securing this land and the commissioning of a consultancy team to put together a masterplan for the provision of greenspace and an outdoor recreation area in Maghera has shown that the Council had been listening to the requests coming from the community and trusts that this would be the next step in delivering what would be a great amenity for the people of Maghera and its surroundings areas.

Councillor Kearney wished to place on record his thanks to Council officials who had negotiated the purchase and transfer of the significant 37 acres. The physical development and action plan with the key message for Maghera at time which was devised as a vibrant welcoming place where people work in referred to the five opportunity sites which were heralded in the 2017-2030 action plan. He said that it was great to add another project to the list alongside another recent development the Trim Trail at the former PSNI station and felt that the greenspace identified would go a long way to satisfy the interests and needs of the people and looked forward to the next phase of this development and the involvement of the consultancy team to develop a master plan and business case as these were exciting times.

Proposed by Councillor Corry

Seconded by Councillor Black

And

Resolved That it be recommended to Council be granted to progress procurement of a suitably qualified Consultancy Teams to develop a Master Plan/Business Case for the potential development of lands between Mullagh Road/Tobermore Road as an outdoor recreational green space for the Maghera area.

