

**Minutes of Meeting of Environment Committee of Mid Ulster District Council
held on Tuesday 14 September 2021 in Council Offices, Circular Road,
Dungannon and by virtual means**

Members Present

Councillor Brown, Chair

Councillors Buchanan*, Burton, Cuthbertson, Glasgow,
Graham, Kearney, N McAleer, S McAleer*, B McGuigan,
S McGuigan, McNamee, Milne*, O'Neill*, Wilson

**Officers in
Attendance**

Mr Kelso, Director of Public Health and Infrastructure
Mr Leavey, Civil Engineer**
Mr McAdoo, Head of Environmental Services**
Mrs McClements, Head of Environmental Health**
Mr McNeill, Technical Services Manager**
Mr Scullion, Head of Property Services**
Mr Wilkinson, Head of Building Control**
Miss Thompson, Democratic Services Officer

**Others in
Attendance**

Councillor McFlynn***

* Denotes members and members of the public 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 Brown welcomed everyone to the meeting and those watching the meeting through the Live Broadcast. Councillor Brown 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.

E187/21 Apologies

Councillor Totten.

E188/21 Declarations of Interest

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

E189/21 Chair's Business

The Chair, Councillor Brown advised that the Council's BinSmart recycling campaign has been shortlisted for a national recycling award. The Chair stated that the previous Chair, Councillor S McGuigan, had been very much involved in the campaign at the time and was hopeful that Council will be successful at these awards.

Matters for Decision

E190/21 DfI Roads Proposal to Mid Ulster District Council - Proposed Traffic Calming Measures at Windsor Terrace, Coagh

Members considered previously circulated report which sought agreement in relation to proposed traffic calming measures at Windsor Terrace, Coagh.

Proposed by Councillor Wilson
Seconded by Councillor McNamee and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to endorse the proposal submitted by Department for Infrastructure Roads in relation to proposed traffic calming measures at Windsor Terrace, Coagh.

E191/21 DfI Roads Proposal to Mid Ulster District Council - Proposed Traffic Calming Measures at Ardboe Road and Pairc Na Mona, Moortown

Members considered previously circulated report which sought agreement in relation to proposed traffic calming measures at Ardboe Road and Pairc Na Mona, Moortown.

Proposed by Councillor Wilson
Seconded by Councillor McNamee and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to endorse the proposal submitted by Department for Infrastructure Roads in relation to proposed traffic calming measures at Ardboe Road and Pairc Na Mona, Moortown.

E192/21 DfI Roads Proposal to Mid Ulster District Council - Proposed Clearway – Moneymore Road Dual Carriageway, Cookstown

Members considered previously circulated report which sought agreement in relation to proposed Clearway at Moneymore Road Dual Carriageway, Cookstown.

Councillor Wilson stated he had no objection to the proposal and that he had raised road safety issues regarding the dual carriageway previously. The Councillor asked that when planning permission was sought and approval obtained for the new petrol station and shop on the dual carriageway what response Roads Service made to planning on this application as he felt there was an accident waiting to happen. Councillor Wilson stated he was aware that one access has been closed off to try to reduce risk and there was now the proposal for clearways almost as an afterthought and asked that the Committee request a copy of the Roads Service response to that planning application.

Proposed by Councillor Wilson
Seconded by Councillor McNamee and

- Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to –
- Endorse the proposal submitted by Department for Infrastructure Roads in relation to proposed Clearway at Moneymore Road Dual Carriageway, Cookstown.
 - Request a copy of the Roads Service response to the planning application in relation to the petrol station and shop on the Moneymore Road dual carriageway.

E193/21 DfI Roads Proposal to Mid Ulster District Council - Proposed 40MPH Speed Limit – Kilmascully Road, Ardboe

Members considered previously circulated report which sought agreement in relation to proposed 40mph speed limit at Kilmascully Road, Ardboe.

Proposed by Councillor Wilson
Seconded by Councillor McNamee and

- Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to endorse the proposal submitted by Department for Infrastructure Roads in relation to proposed 40mph speed limit at Kilmascully Road, Ardboe.

E194/21 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), in relation to regulatory checks on poultry meat, beef and veal and eggs between Mid Ulster District Council and the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs

The Head of Environmental Health presented previously circulated report which advised of request received from the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) for a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to be established and agreed, in relation to regulatory checks on poultry meat, beef and veal and eggs between DAERA and the 11 District Councils in Northern Ireland, including Mid Ulster District Council.

Proposed by Councillor B McGuigan
Seconded by Councillor McNamee and

- Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to sign up to the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) as set out at appendix 1, in relation to regulatory checks on poultry meat, beef and veal, and eggs with DAERA and the other District Councils in Northern Ireland, as requested.

E195/21 Request for support for a Regional Home safety facility from Causeway Coast & Glens Borough Council

The Head of Environmental Health presented previously circulated report which advised of correspondence received from Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council requesting support from Mid Ulster District Council to consider a regional Home Safety facility.

The Chair, Councillor Brown asked whether a regional home safety facility would impact on the Be Safe event or if it would be an additional resource.

The Head of Environmental Health advised that she was unsure at the moment how a regional facility would impact on the Be Safe event. The officer advised that part of the Be Safe programme may redirect schools to the facility to support it but that it would all depend on how the request for the facility develops going forward.

Councillor Kearney stated that he felt Desertcreat could offer an excellent facility.

Councillor B McGuigan stated he had no issues in supporting the recommendation but felt that more information is needed going forward. The Councillor referred to the two centres which have closed and asked why they closed when there was now a request to open another facility.

The Chair, Councillor Brown stated that Council could request that more information be provided within their response and also highlight Desertcreat as being an excellent facility which could be used and would be central.

Proposed by Councillor Kearney
Seconded by Councillor S McGuigan and

- Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to –
- Agree in principle to support a “fit for purpose” Regional home safety facility to be funded by Central Government in a manner that enables free access to school age children across NI.
 - To request more information regarding a regional facility, make enquiries as to why the other two facilities have closed and highlight Desertcreat as a central site for a facility going forward.

E196/21 Update on Age Friendly and Mid Ulster Loneliness Network

The Head of Environmental Health presented previously circulated report which provided update on the ongoing work around Age Friendly Communities and associated Networks across the Mid Ulster District Council Area and also advised on a request for funding towards community projects.

Councillor Wilson proposed the recommendation and also proposed recurring funding towards the Loneliness Network as he felt it allows everyone to plan ahead. Councillor Wilson also referred to the Chatty Bench Initiative and stated that this is a great initiative which should be rolled out across the District.

Councillor Cuthbertson seconded Councillor Wilson’s proposal.

Councillor Burton declared an interest in this item as a member of Agewell.

Councillor Kearney declared an interest as he had been approached by a number of people in relation to obtaining a Chatty Bench along the River Bann at Molloy’s Ford.

- Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to –
- Make a contribution of £3,000 towards programme costs for the Loneliness Network in order to deliver on the Chatty Bench Initiative as supported by the other key partners of the Mid Ulster Loneliness Network including NHSCT and SHSCT.

- To agree in principle the potential for recurring funding towards the Loneliness Network to allow for future planning and preparations.

E197/21 Updated Service Level Agreement in relation to the Affordable Warmth Programme

The Head of Environmental Health presented previously circulated report which provided update on the funding for the Affordable Warmth Scheme and Council's Energy Efficiency Advice Service and sought approval for Service Level Agreement.

Proposed by Councillor McNamee
Seconded by Councillor N McAleer and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to approve the Service Level Agreement for 2021/22 as set out at appendix 1 of report.

E198/21 Street Naming and Property Numbering

The Head of Building Control presented previously circulated report which considered the naming of new streets within residential Housing Developments within Mid-Ulster.

Site off Castledawson Road, Magherafelt

Proposed by Councillor Brown
Seconded by Councillor Kearney and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to name development off Castledawson Road, Magherafelt as LINC Business Park.

Site off Mullaghboy Road, Bellaghy

The Chair, Councillor Brown proposed the name The Folly.

Councillor Kearney seconded Councillor Brown's proposal.

Councillor Milne stated that this area is known to everyone as The Folly Brae and that he felt officers should go back to the contractor to request that the development be named The Folly Brae.

The Chair, Councillor Brown stated he was happy to amend his proposal for officers to go back to the contractor asking that the development be named The Folly Brae. Councillor Kearney was in agreement with this.

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to go back to the contractor to request that development off Mullaghboy, Road, Bellaghy be named The Folly Brae.

Site off Molesworth Street, Cookstown

Proposed by Councillor Brown
Seconded by Councillor Kearney and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to name development off Molesworth Street, Cookstown as Church Mews.

E199/21 Consultation on Proposed Amendments to Building Regulations

The Head of Building Control presented previously circulated report which advised of a consultation forwarded by the Department of Finance, inviting a response on the proposed Amendments to the Building Regulations.

The Chair, Councillor Brown referred to the issues raised within the report regarding an assembly type building which can accommodate 350 people having to provide a Changing Places Toilet and also the inclusion of cemeteries. The Chair, Councillor Brown proposed that Council go back to the Department querying the 350 threshold and whether this can be raised and also requesting that cemeteries be excluded from having to comply with the amended regulations.

Councillor Wilson seconded Councillor Brown's proposal.

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to –

- Agree and submit the draft consultation response to the proposed Amendments of the Building Regulations as set out at appendix 3 of report.
- Include commentary within the response asking that the 350 threshold for assembly type buildings be raised for provision of a Changing Places Toilet and that cemeteries be excluded from complying with the amended regulations.

E200/21 Bus Shelters Update

The Technical Services Manager presented previously circulated report which provided an update on current bus shelter status.

In response to question from Councillor Wilson regarding response times from DfI Roads the Technical Services Manager advised that there have been no recent requests sent to DfI Roads hence the nil response.

Proposed by Councillor Milne
Seconded by Councillor O'Neill and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council –

- To approve installation of bus shelter at Lisaclore Road, Killeen.
- To withdraw requests for bus shelters at Bellaghy and Meenagh Park, Coalisland.
- To put on hold the following requests until further clarification is obtained from Statutory Agencies -
 - Innishrush Village
 - Eglish View, Ballinderry
 - Main Street, Benburb

Matters for Information

E201/21 Minutes of Environment Committee held on 5 July 2021

Members noted minutes of Environment Committee held on 5 July 2021.

Councillor Cuthbertson asked for an update in relation to the roll out of defibrillators.

The Head of Environmental Health advised that the defibrillators for the recycling centres have all arrived and that contact has been made with Environmental Services to get these installed. The defibrillator for President Grant's Homestead has been ordered. In relation to Gardiner's Hall, the officer advised that there is a 24 hour AED within 0.2 miles at the Community First Responders building. It was further advised that there is also a defibrillator located inside Gardiner's Hall which is associated with the boxing club. A defibrillator for Lough Fea has been ordered and officers are continuing to explore the best location for this as only part of the site has electricity. The officer advised that a defibrillator has been installed at Drum Manor Forest Park and that there is an external defibrillator located within one mile of Glenone River Walk. It was advised that there is a 24 hour access defibrillator at Drumcoo Bowling Green with further defibrillators located internally at Oaks Road depot and the Enterprise Centre.

Councillor Cuthbertson thanked the officer for the update but stated he was extremely disappointed how long it was taking to get defibrillators on site and highlighted that the defibrillator for the President Grant Homestead was approved last November and is still not on site. In relation to Gardiner's Hall, Councillor Cuthbertson stated it was his recollection from a previous meeting that there were to be discussions with the boxing club with regard to siting their defibrillator on an external wall of the building for public access. The Councillor also asked where the 24 hour access defibrillator was at Drumcoo.

The Head of Environmental Health advised that officers have checked and that there is a 24 hour access defibrillator at Drumcoo Bowling Green.

Councillor Cuthbertson stated he would check this as he was aware that the defibrillator at the Bowling Green had previously been removed due to vandalism.

E202/21 Northern Ireland Local Authority Collected Municipal Waste Management (LACMW) Report for January to March 2021

Members noted previously circulated report which provided update on Council's performance in relation to recycling and landfill diversion targets as outlined in the NIEA Northern Ireland Local Authority Waste Management Statistics Report for Quarter 4 of 2020/21 from January to March 2021.

E203/21 Call for Evidence to Eliminate Plastic Waste Pollution

Members noted previously circulated report which outlined Council's proposed response to a Call for Evidence on a Plan to Eliminate Plastic Pollution in Northern Ireland.

E204/21 Drinking Water Quality Report for Northern Ireland 2020 – Mid Ulster District Council

Members noted previously circulated report which outlined the Drinking Water Quality Report for Northern Ireland 2020.

E205/21 Environmental Plans, Principles and Governance for Northern Ireland Public Discussion Document (Synopsis of Responses)

Members noted previously circulated report which advised of the responses made to a previously circulated consultation document by DAERA entitled “Environmental Plans, Principles and Governance for Northern Ireland”: Public Discussion Document.

E206/21 Building Control Workload

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

E207/21 Entertainment Licensing Applications

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

E208/21 Dual Language Signage Requests

Members noted previously circulated report which advised of requests for Dual Language Signage from residents on streets/roads in the District.

Councillor Cuthbertson stated that it was his understanding from previous discussions that because there is no current electoral register Dual Language signage requests would have to be put on hold until a new electoral register is produced. Councillor Cuthbertson also referred to request relating to Earls Court and that this is a shared housing development under the T:buc scheme. The Councillor stated that there are strict rules on developments which are funded through T:buc and to go ahead and erect dual language signage would go against this scheme. Councillor Cuthbertson stated that as there is strict guidance in relation to T:buc shared housing Council would need to consult with the Housing Association in relation to the request.

The Head of Building Control advised that prior to officers going back to view the Electoral Register it was confirmed by the Electoral Office that there was an electoral register published on 1 June 2021 which is a current and public document, in addition to this a monthly addendum will be included showing additions/deletions where required and this is the document(s) the Council officer would be viewing when they visited the offices.

Councillor Cuthbertson stated that he felt that the message that had went out previously was different as he understood that on 1 July there was a canvas of all electors in Northern Ireland. The Councillor felt there is a lot of confusion and it would be better to wait until the new register is produced.

The Director of Public Health and Infrastructure advised that the request for Earls Court would be checked with the internal teams and the Housing Association with an update coming to the next Environment Committee meeting.

E209/21 Cookstown Public Realm – Inspection

Members noted presented previously circulated report which provided a report on the condition of Cookstown Public Realm following the readoption of the project by DfI Roads in March 2019.

E210/21 Town Centre Footpath Snow/Ice Clearance Agreement

Members noted previously circulated report which outlined the rolling annual agreement with DfI/Transport NI in relation to the treatment of footpaths in the main town centres within Mid Ulster District following heavy snowfall or prolonged freezing.

Councillor Cuthbertson asked if there was any progress in relation to the treatment of car parks, that this issue is discussed every year but that there never seems to be movement forward.

The Head of Property Services advised that that the agreement is the same as previously agreed. The officer advised that the mitigation measures in car parks still stand in that there is signage to advise that they are not treated in snow/ice conditions, that there are self help boxes with grit should they be required. The officer stated that officers have used the Town Centre Retail Core maps in each town in order to achieve consistency.

The Chair, Councillor Brown asked if what is highlighted in dark blue on the maps is what has been covered in the past and then the shaded light blue on the map is what will be included from now on.

The Head of Property Services advised that these were the same maps which have been used for several years and that effectively it is the outer blue line which highlights the boundary of the retail core in each town.

The Chair, Councillor Brown asked if the maps could be updated as he felt they were not clear in what is being covered.

The Head of Property Services agreed to circulate updated maps for the next Environment Committee meeting.

Councillor O'Neill referred to the good work done in Coalisland with the Public Realm Scheme but highlighted that in icy conditions the footpaths are very slippery and that there is a need for grit in Coalisland.

The Head of Property Services noted the Councillor's comments.

Live broadcast ended at 7.46 pm.

Local Government (NI) Act 2014 - Confidential Business

Proposed by Councillor S McGuigan
Seconded by Councillor B McGuigan and

Resolved In accordance with Section 42, Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (NI) 2014 that Members of the public be asked to withdraw from the meeting whilst Members consider items E211/21 to E220/21.

Matters for Decision

E211/21 Review of policy for collection of additional brown bins
E212/21 Clean Neighbourhood Action Plan
E213/21 Tender report for the appointment of a Vehicle Supplier

Matters for Information

E214/21 Confidential Minutes of Environment Committee held on 5 July 2021
E215/21 Refuse Collection – Roll out of One Armed Vehicles (OAVs)
E216/21 Disposal/Sale of Assets - Fleet and Plant
E217/21 Energy Management Update – Display Energy Certificates (DEC's)
E218/21 Capital Framework – ICT Contracts Update
E219/21 Capital Framework – IST Contracts Update
E220/21 Capital Projects – Scoping Contracts Update

E221/21 Duration of Meeting

The meeting was called for 7.00 pm and ended at 8.35 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.