

**A**

**Minutes of Meeting of Mid Ulster District Council held on Thursday 28 May 2015 in the Council Offices, Circular Road, Dungannon**

**Members Present:** Councillor Dillon, Chair

Councillors Ashton, Bateson, Bell, Buchanan, Burton, Clarke (7.05pm), Cuddy, Cuthbertson, Dillon, Elattar, Forde, Gildernew, Gillespie, Glasgow, McEldowney, McFlynn, McGinley, B McGuigan, S McGuigan, McKinney, McLean, McNamee, McPeake, Molloy, Monteith, Mullen, Mulligan, C O'Neill, J O'Neill, M Quinn, T Quinn, Reid, Robinson, G Shiels, J Shiels, Totten and Wilson

**Officers in Attendance:** Mr A Tohill, Chief Executive  
Mrs Canavan, Lead HR Officer  
Mrs Campbell, Director of Arts and Leisure  
Mr Kelso, Director of Public Health and Infrastructure  
Mr McCreesh, Director of Business and Communities  
Mrs Mezza, Head of Marketing and Communications  
Mr Moffett, Head of Democratic Services  
Mr JJ Tohill, Lead Finance Officer  
Mrs Forde, Member Support Officer

The meeting commenced at 7 pm.

**C89/15 Apologies**

Councillor Kearney.

The Chair, Councillor Dillon extended sympathies to Councillor Kearney on the death of his brother.

**C90/15 Declarations of Interest**

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

**C91/15 Receive and consider minutes of matters transacted in "Open Business" at Council meeting held on Thursday 23 April 2015**

Proposed by Councillor S McGuigan  
Seconded by Councillor Buchanan and

**Resolved** That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on Thursday 23 April 2015 (C71/15 – C82/15 and C88/15), transacted in "Open Business" having been printed and circulated were considered and signed as accurate and correct.

Councillor Wilson referred to page 2 of the minutes where it had agreed to send letters of congratulations to Ms Susan Parke and Ms Rachel McKeown. Stating that

the letters had been received Councillor Wilson requested that the two individuals be included in a civic reception to honour their achievements as it was on the agenda under notices of motion to honour various sporting club achievements. He also requested that David Ames and Ian Sloan, Great Britain hockey players, Norman Espie, Men's Royal British Legion Standard Bearer (National), Cookstown Primary School, Winners of Northern Ireland Primary School Hockey Cup, and Linda Black, Women's Personality of the Year in Ulster Hockey also be honoured at a civic reception for their achievements.

Proposed by Councillor Wilson  
Seconded by Councillor Reid

That the aforementioned be recognised at a civic reception.

Councillor McNamee asked how the receptions would be delivered as there was no decision yet regarding motions to be considered later in the meeting.

*Councillor Clarke entered the meeting at 7.05pm*

The Chair, Councillor Dillon stated that at present there was no policy for civic receptions and the request to honour the Tyrone Under 21 Gaelic Team was because it was an All-Ireland achievement. She stated that throughout her year in office it was her intention to host receptions to honour achievers across the district.

**Resolved** That

- (i) Letters of congratulations be forwarded to aforementioned individuals on their achievements; and
- (ii) Civic Receptions be discussed at the next available Party Leaders to determine the way forward.

**C92/15      Receive and consider the minutes and recommendations of matters transacted in "Open Business" at the Planning Committee meeting held on Tuesday 5 May 2015**

Proposed by Councillor Cuthbertson  
Seconded by Councillor McLean and

**Resolved** That the Minutes and recommendations of the Planning Committee meeting held on Monday 5 May 2015 (P35/15 – P39/15 and P45/15) transacted in "Open Business", having been printed and circulated were considered and adopted.

**C93/15      Receive and consider the minutes and recommendations of matters transacted in "Open Business" at the Policy and Resources meeting held on Monday 11 May 2015**

With regard to PR75/15 Councillor Bateson asked that at paragraph 8 on page 3 his comment made at the meeting be also included in the minute to reflect that he

concurred with Councillor Mallaghan's comments that newspaper circulations should be independently checked.

The Chief Executive in response to Councillor Cuddy's query stated that the debt of one of the former Councils was not classified as such due to their debt management approach.

Proposed by Councillor S McGuigan  
Seconded by Councillor Ashton and

**Resolved** That the Minutes and recommendations of the Policy and Resources Committee meeting held on Monday 11 May 2015, (PR71/15 – PR83/15 and P88/15) transacted in "Open Business", having been printed and circulated, subject to the foregoing were considered and adopted.

**C94/15 Receive and consider the minutes and recommendations of matters transacted in "Open Business" at the Environment Committee meeting held on Tuesday 12 May 2015**

Proposed by Councillor McNamee  
Seconded by Councillor McFlynn and

**Resolved** That the Minutes and recommendations of the Environment Committee meeting held on Tuesday 12 May 2015, (E54/15 – 75/15 and E83/15), transacted in "Open Business", having been printed and circulated were considered and adopted.

**C95/15 Receive and consider the minutes and recommendations of matters transacted in "Open Business" at the Development Committee meeting held on Thursday 14 May 2015**

Councillor J Shiels requested amendments as undernoted in relation to D81/15 and D85/15

Page 6, paragraph 5 of D81/15 amended to read, Councillor J Shiels stated that the scheme had been a big success in cities throughout the UK and that he was delighted to see the opportunity of rolling it out in Mid Ulster. Councillor Shiels proposed that the recommendation made by the officers be accepted regardless of cost but did ask if the £8000 fee could be negotiated upon. The proposer be amended from Councillor T Quinn to J Shiels

Page 10, paragraph 2, D85/15 amended to read, Councillor J Shiels speaking of the benefits of the scheme stated although he recognised the cuts that the Education Minister's Department was facing he would propose that the recommendation of the Officer be adopted and that a letter be sent to the Minister requesting that he reconsider his position with regards to funding for the Business Education Partnership (BEP). The proposer be amended from Councillor McNamee to Councillor J Shiels.

Councillor McNamee with regard to item D90/15 on the Greenvale Leisure Consultative Group proposed that a meeting be held before the end of June.

Proposed by Councillor McNamee  
Seconded by Councillor McGinley and

**Resolved** That

- (i) a meeting of Greenvale Leisure Consultative Group be held before the end of June;
- (ii) That the Minutes and recommendations of the Development Committee meeting held on Thursday 14 May 2015, (D73/15 – D95/15 and D98/15) transacted in “Open Business”, having been printed and circulated, subject to the foregoing were considered and adopted.

### **C96/15 Standing Orders for the Regulation of Business**

The Chief Executive drew attention to the previously circulated report seeking adoption of the Standing Orders for the transaction of Mid Ulster District Council business and indicated that he had reported the detail on same at the April meeting of Council.

Councillor Mallaghan stated that Standing Orders were first raised in May 2014 with the draft now reflecting the necessary changes and the NILGA response, and thus tailored to suit the working of the Council. He continued that he had one issue in that considering the number of motions on the agenda for May council meeting proposed that each party be permitted to submit a single motion at any one meeting. Thus every party including the independent would have the opportunity to submit one.

Proposed by Councillor Mallaghan  
Seconded by Councillor McGinley and

That notices of motion presented to a meeting be limited to one from each party plus the independent member.

Councillor Cuddy stated that his party did not have a problem with the proposal as time could be better spent at meetings but he felt that five could be too many. He suggested that the matter be discussed by the Party Representatives Group.

Proposed by Councillor Cuddy  
Seconded by Councillor Wilson

That the number of notices of motion presented to a meeting be discussed at a party representatives meeting.

Councillor Mallaghan concurred with this and subsequently withdrew his proposal.

Councillor Wilson suggested that the standing orders presented be adopted with a proviso of amending the section on Motions.

Councillor Ashton sought clarity on 15.2 and 15.3 in the standing orders regarding any member wishing to raise an issue having to submit same in writing 48 hours prior to the meeting. Responding the Chief Executive advised that if a member provides a written request 48 hours in advance they are entitled to receive a response but a member still could ask for an update.

Proposed by Councillor Mallaghan  
Seconded by Councillor McGuigan and

**Resolved** That the Standing Orders be adopted with the proviso that Motions be discussed by the Party Representatives Group.

Councillor McPeake requested that the standing orders be published as a booklet as it was convenient to have a hard copy. The Chair concurred with this.

Proposed by Councillor McPeake  
Seconded by Councillor McLean and

**Resolved** That the Standing Orders once complete be formed into a booklet and provided to Members.

Councillor Cuthbertson sought clarity on whether the Chair of each meeting was held to standing orders or could they overrule as they went along as he had experienced this. The Chief Executive advised that it would be expected that the Chair conduct the meeting within the Standing Orders but once the meeting had commenced the Chair had the authority to interpret the Standing Orders and rule on same.

Councillor J Shiels asked if an appeal through a 'call in' process could be made. In response the Chief Executive advised that there could only be a 'call in' with regard to a decision not on how a Chair had conducted the business of a meeting and indicated that there were other ways to seek redress of this.

The Chair, Councillor Dillon suggested that any member should speak to the Chair of the meeting regarding any issue.

## **C97/15      Conferences and Seminars**

The Head of Democratic Services referred to details of the undernoted conferences and sought approval for the attendance of Members and council officers, the payment of attendance fees and associated costs as incurred.

**C97.1/14      IRRV NI Tourism Conference 2015: Looking to the Future (Institute of Revenues, Rating & Valuation), Belfast City Hall Tuesday 23 June 2015 at a fee of £80 per person.**

Proposed by Councillor McGinley  
Seconded by Councillor Clarke and

**Resolved** That the attendance of Members and officers, the payment of attendance fees and associated costs as incurred be approved and that anyone wishing to attend contact officers.

**C97.2/14 APSE Seminar: First 100 Days and Beyond in Braid Town Hall, Museum and Arts Centre, Ballymena at a fee of £175 per person**

Proposed by Councillor McGinley  
Seconded by Councillor Clarke and

**Resolved** That the attendance of Members and officers, the payment of attendance fees and associated costs as incurred be approved and that anyone wishing to attend contact officers.

*Councillor Mulligan left the meeting at 7.24pm*

**C98/15 Community Safety College, Desertcreat**

The Chair, Councillor Dillon advised that there had been notice on social media that there were reports on positive moves on the Community Safety College, Desertcreat and although it was not confirmed the Chair proposed that Council write to the Department of Justice and request a meeting to be updated on the position.

Proposed by Councillor Dillon  
Seconded by Councillor T Quinn and

**Resolved** That Council write to the Department of Justice and request a meeting to receive an update on the Community Safety College, Desertcreat.

**C99/15 Consideration of Motions**

**C99.1/15 Councillor Mallaghan to move motion**

Councillor Mallaghan in moving the undernoted motion stated he had great delight in the achievement of the under 21 football team especially as the Captain, Ciaran McGerry was a fellow club man, a talented athlete and a hero in his eyes. Councillor Mallaghan further stated that the former Councils had attributed to GAA success in assisting with resources and it was fitting that the first civic reception for Mid Ulster be for a group of young people.

Councillor Mallaghan proposed the motion,

*This Council notes the Achievement of Tyrone GAA Under 21 Football Team and their success in winning the All Ireland Championship in Parnell Park Dublin on the 2nd May. That this council commends the players, management, back room team and the County Board for their hard work in bringing this great honour to the District and the County. That this council hosts a civic reception in their honour*

Councillor Cuthbertson sought clarification as to whether the Chair of Council had authority to go ahead and host a reception out of the Chair's allowance regardless if the motion was carried or fell. The Chief Executive confirmed that to be the case.

Councillor Mallaghan stated that the function should be a civic reception hosted by Council and should be funded from the Civic Reception budget not the Chair's Allowance.

Seconded by Councillor McNamee

In seconding the motion, Councillor McNamee extended congratulations to the team stating that they were following on from other Tyrone successes and indeed those of Derry. He stated that at both county and club level the success was a catalyst for the future.

Councillor McLean emphasising that he had no issue with the reception or the team, queried if Council was setting a precedent prior to having a policy in place. He stated that the motion should be held back until a policy was in place as it was 'putting the cart before the horse.'

Proposed by Councillor McLean  
Seconded by Councillor Cuthbertson

Postpone the notice of motion until a reception policy is in place.

Councillor M Quinn expressed his support for the motion stating that it had been a while since the Under 21 team had enjoyed such a success and it was superb that the Manager was a local person.

Councillor Mallaghan stated he understood what was being said but regardless of the situation surrounding a policy, an All-Ireland success is something Council should support and the team was very deserving of a Civic Reception.

The Chair, Councillor Dillon called for a vote on the motion;

For	23
Against	14

The Chair, Councillor Dillon called for a vote on proposal of Councillor McLean

For	14
Against	23

The Chair, Councillor Dillon declared the motion carried.

Responding to Councillor Mallaghan's comments as to whether he had a conflict in relation to the reception Councillor Wilson advised he had no difficulty but thought it would be wise to await a policy on civic receptions.



Councillor Mallaghan expressed his thanks to those who supported the motion, especially the county Derry Councillors.

#### **C99.2/15      Councillor C O'Neill to move the motion**

Councillor C O'Neill in moving the motion stated that Council should condemn with deep regret the recent comments made by Councillor McLean in the Irish News and call on him to retract the comments immediately.

Councillor C O'Neill stated that her comments were in relation to a call by Councillor McLean for homosexuality to be made illegal coming on the back of the political debacle which has seen the resignation of the DUP Health Minister, Jim Wells MLA who caused much hurt to the LGBT community when asked for his views on civil marriage equality at a hustings event during his Westminster election campaign.

Councillor C O'Neill further stated that the motion was coming less than a week after Equal Marriage was given a resounding green light as the result of the referendum in the 26 counties and the right to marriage equality being enjoyed by Irish citizens should be shared in the North. Stating that Sinn Féin would continue to campaign for marriage equality for all in the North and to end discrimination against the LGBT community, Councillor C O'Neill stated that there would be a high level of public interest in the debate as it was regrettable that in the opening years of the 21<sup>st</sup> century a motion rebuking the DUP's Councillor McLean's unhelpful and insensitive comments had to be tabled. Emphasising that the LGBT community in Mid Ulster, like anywhere else, contribute much in terms of positivity in the community and deserved respect she stated that like many of her colleagues in education and youth service she sees the devastation caused by prejudice against the gay community and made reference to the sense of isolation felt, self-harm and the suicide rate amongst many young gay people which must be tackled once and for all. Continuing, she stated that there must be no place in society for homophobia and all its manifestations.

Referring to the result of the referendum in the 26 Counties Councillor O'Neill stated it would help tackle homophobia whilst the continuing blocking of the rights of gay people at Stormont and reckless comments by elected politicians in the media would not. Making mention of attempts by Sinn Féin to introduce marriage equality in the North which had been blocked by the main unionist parties whilst the SDLP and Alliance had sat on the fence Councillor C O'Neill was emphatic that it was not good enough for the SDLP's MLA for East Derry together with his South Down colleagues to go missing when a vote was called.

Councillor C O'Neill quoted Mid Ulster journalist, Michael McGlade's editorial in a recent newspaper stating "with a growing swell of public figures calling for a change in the law here, people in Magherafelt, Cookstown and beyond will be watching very carefully to see how this debate unfolds, and study the comments of the people they elected."

Concluding her remarks, Councillor C O'Neill requested that Council took the opportunity to show much needed solidarity with its LGBT citizens who contribute so

much positivity in terms of community life across the district and beyond and as such put on record opposition to the comments of Councillor McLean in relation to homosexuality and take the opportunity to request him to withdraw his comments.

Finishing by quoting Amnesty International's Patrick Corrigan who recently stated "that the North is the last bastion of discrimination against gay people in these islands", Councillor C O'Neill proposed the motion.

Proposed by Councillor C O'Neill  
Seconded by Councillor McPeake, that

*This council notes the positive contribution that the LGBT community make to the Mid Ulster Society. That council acknowledges that this district is a welcome place for everyone regardless of your sexuality or gender. This council condemns with deep regret the comments made by Councillor Paul McClean last month in the Irish News and calls on him to retract those comments immediately.*

Councillor McLean responding stated that he had spent time considering the motion and with a young family, members could imagine the conversations which had taken place in his home. Referring to his first reaction on reading the motion he asked what right Sinn Féin had to lecture him or anyone else in the chamber on ethics or morals and request that he withdraw comments based on their history. Outlining his political career which had spanned over 25 years on Magherafelt District Council, Councillor McLean stated that he had heard Sinn Féin representatives justify and condone the murder, capture and torture of innocent people and that there were those in the chamber who still justify the Provisional IRA's campaign of murder. Councillor McLean continued stating that when every Councillor in the Chamber condemned the Provisional IRA's actions then Councillor C O'Neill's call for equality would carry more weight and thus challenged Members to stand up and condemn anyone in the Chamber who had justified or participated in the Provisional IRA. Councillor McLean stated that he would not condemn the motion but trusted that his comments would render it unnecessary.

Councillor McLean emphasised that he wanted Mid Ulster to be a welcoming place for everyone and would note the positive contribution that all people make in the community. Stating that the debate on the motion had arisen from a quote in the Irish News concerning homosexuality which read, "The Biblical perspective speaks against it and I take the Biblical perspective. It goes against the Bible's stance so I don't believe it should be legal." Councillor McLean explained that the Irish News had initially contacted him several years prior during a discussion of redefining marriage at which time he had said, "As a Christian who believes in the stance of the Bible I believe homosexuality is morally wrong. It is spiritually wrong and I don't believe it should be legal". Continuing he stated that the Bible lists numerous matters and describes them as sin and whether of Christian faith or not no one disputes it and that it was not his belief that every sin listed should be a criminal offence nor was it his belief that homosexuality should be one. Emphasising that he was no theologian but a simple Christian, he stated that he would defend the rights of Christian people to quote the scriptures and live lives according to God's Word

and that they should not be forced by any law of the land to dilute the Bible or their sincerely held beliefs. Stating that whilst he endeavoured to apply God's Word to every aspect of his life but often failed he was not setting himself up on a "holier than thou" pedestal. However, Councillor McLean stated categorically that he believed in marriage between one man and one woman but that did not make him homophobic and within both society and Council care must be taken not to lapse into extremist language and a view taken on any topic based on a Christian belief did not mean that a person hated another. Councillor McLean related that he was in politics because he was passionate about both his country and community and thus wanted to help others, see the district prospering and lay a foundation for others to build upon but that he felt Mid Ulster Council had not got off on the right footing.

Councillor McLean stated that he had been open with the meeting and it had not been nor was his intention to cause offence to anyone but that he was entitled to express his dearly held Christian view. Stating that it was time for others in the Chamber to step up to the mark he said he wanted Mid Ulster Council to be a place where everyone feels welcome but what about the Royal British Legion and the poppy sellers and he posed the question, was the Chamber going to address the decision to block the organisation selling poppies in the building. Commenting that Councillor C O'Neill had brought the motion about words he had used and requested the Council to condemn what he said challenged the Councillor to bring a motion in June asking the Council to condemn not words but actions and involvement of her Party colleagues in the Provisional IRA.

Concluding, Councillor McLean stated the motion was trying to label him as homophobic which he certainly was not and that he believed he had clarified his position. He added that his mother had always said that you should always ensure your own doorstep is clean before commenting on anyone else's and this was good advice for the Chamber also and continued to say that he wanted to see a good working relationship where Councillors treat the entire electorate with fairness. Highlighting that regardless of religious background or sexuality he wanted everyone in the area to feel valued and be part of the community they lived and worked in. He asked that the motion be voided and withdrawn as he felt his comments had rendered it pointless to go through an exercise of speeches and then a vote and thus would leave the matter with the Chair and proposer but he felt he had clarified his position.

Councillor McPeake stated that he gave credit to Councillor McLean and his efforts to side track the motion by touching on the conflict, the Royal British Legion and sale of poppies which had nothing to do with it. Councillors McPeake said it was outrageous for a public representative to speak as Councillor McLean had done, he stated that the tightening of standards with regard to the code of conduct for Councillors had been a positive trait, and that the well-rehearsed comments of Councillor McLean were not acceptable in public life and indeed were questionable under the Code of Conduct. Mentioning the ban there had been on blood donation from the LGBT Councillor McPeake called on Councillor McLean and his party to come out of the wilderness and join the modern age. Councillor McPeake stated that Council should move forward collectively on such issues.

The Chair, Councillor Dillon stated that she could not void the motion and thus called for a vote. A recorded vote was requested.

For	23 (SF) Councillors Bateson, Bell, Clarke, Elattar, Gildernew, Gillespie, McEldowney, Mallaghan, McGinley, B McGuigan, S McGuigan, McNamee, McPeake, Molloy, C O'Neill, J O'Neill, Totten, (SDLP) Councillors McAleer, McFlynn, Mullen, T Quinn, M Quinn and (Independent) Councillor Monteith
Against	10 (DUP) Councillors Ashton, Buchanan, Burton, Cuthbertson, Forde, McLean, Robinson, J Shiels, (UUP) Councillors G Shiels, Reid
Abstained	4 Councillors (UUP) Cuddy, Glasgow, McKinney and Wilson

The Chair Councillor Linda Dillon did not record a vote.

The Chair declared the motion carried.

### **C99.3/15      Councillor Cuthbertson to move**

Councillor Cuthbertson stated that the birth of a baby girl in any home is a joyous occasion and the birth of the Royal baby, Princess Charlotte caused great excitement across Mid Ulster and the United Kingdom, as a whole, and remarked that many of his constituents were glued to television screens for first sightings of the baby.

Proposed by Councillor Cuthbertson  
Seconded by Councillor McLean

*That this Council, send warmest congratulations and best wishes to their Royal Highnesses, The Duke & Duchess of Cambridge, on the birth of their daughter Her Royal Highness Princess Charlotte Elizabeth Diana of Cambridge, fourth in line to the Throne and sister of His Royal Highness Prince George of Cambridge.*

Councillor Mallaghan shared with the Chamber that Councillor Totten had celebrated the birth of a baby in the past week and stated that whilst he would welcome and congratulate any birth and that his party went to great lengths to recognise all people they would not be supporting the motion. He stated that whilst some of the community were happy to be subjects of the Crown he was a Republican and believed in citizenship and equality. He further stated that many children born into the Mid Ulster area would be living in deprivation whilst this Royal baby would have everything because the people paid for it and it was neither fair nor equal.

Councillor Monteith concurred with Councillor Mallaghan's comments and stated that he would confer good wishes to everyone who had welcomed a new baby but as a republican he opposed the monarchy as he believed all human beings come into this

world equal and as such no child should be singled out. He asked as to why this child should be privileged and live off the state whilst others lived in deprivation.

Councillor Cuddy supporting the motion stated that a significant proportion of the community were delighted with the Royal birth. He remarked on the recent Royal visit to Ireland and that across the United Kingdom and indeed Ireland the Queen and the Royal family gave communities a lift. Commenting on the tourism industry associated with the Royal family he stated that as a gesture of goodwill a letter should be sent which would cost nothing but not to send it was yet further proof that the unionist were a minority.

Councillor Bateson spoke against the motion stating that republicans did not differentiate.

Councillor Cuthbertson expressed his disappointment but stated that he was not surprised at the outcome. He related that a Roman Catholic member of the community had been in the DUP constituency office and the topic of conversation had been the Royal birth and felt that Sinn Féin had 'got it wrong' in not supporting the motion. Councillor Cuthbertson stated that the great, great, great uncle of Princess Charlotte, Earl Mountbatten had been murdered by colleagues of Sinn Féin thus he was not surprised.

Councillor G Shiels stated that he would support the motion.

The Chair Councillor Dillon called for a vote;

For	14
Against	19
Abstained	4

The Chair declared the motion lost.

#### **C99.4/15 Councillor Bell to move**

Councillor Bell in moving the undernoted motion stated that rugby was a sport which had united Ireland and that in going forward he wished Cookstown Rugby Club every success.

Proposed by Councillor Bell  
Seconded by Councillor McNamee that

*This council notes the recent success of the Cookstown Rugby Club. In this their 25th year, the senior team has won the Ulster Minor League. This is a great achievement for the club and I request that the council acknowledges this great moment for the club in the most appropriate way.*

Councillor McNamee stated that he would congratulate the team on winning the league remarking that one of the turning points was a meeting at Malone at which

the Cookstown team had lodged a complaint but went on to win the league. He stated the team should be recognised in the most appropriate way.

Councillor T Quinn added his support to the motion stating that the players came from across Mid Ulster district and from all sections of the community.

Councillor Mallaghan stated that there were seven Pomeroy men on the team.

Councillor Wilson added his congratulations also and stated that the team won the Ravenhill Cup on the 9 May and this should be included. Councillor Bell agreed that the Ravenhill Cup be included

Councillor Buchanan stated that he too would support the motion.

In response to the Chair, Councillor Dillon asking how best the Council could honour the team, Councillor Bell stated that he felt the team could be invited to attend an event the Chair was proposing to host during her year of office.

The Chair, Councillor Dillon acknowledging that there was general consensus for the motion stated that it would be considered when the Party Representatives group was discussing the matter of receptions.

Councillor McLean stated that he was still of the opinion that Council should have a policy in place for receptions and asked what sort of precedent and message would it set by hosting receptions prior to a policy and thus he had no difficulty with the matter going to Party Representatives for discussion.

The Chair Councillor Dillon stated that until a policy was in place Council had to follow the processes of the former councils. Councillor Bell stated that he was content with the proposal being discussed by the Party Representatives Group.

#### **C99.5/15      Councillor Wilson to move the motion**

Councillor Wilson in moving the undernoted motion stated that as a direct result of the 2015/2016 budget cuts voted through by Sinn Féin and the DUP the modern languages programmes for primary schools and the European studies programme for secondary schools had been cut.

*Councillor Mallaghan left the meeting at 8.07pm*

Referring to the core modern language programme for P1-P4 classes which had been in place since 2007 Councillor Wilson stated that the Minister for Education had announced at the start of March that all funding for the programme would cease at the end of March. He stated that this had all happened without prior notice for the 100 Peripatetic language tutors who had been delivering the programme or any detailed discussion with the Education Committee whose role it is to scrutinize the decision making of the Minister. Councillor Wilson further stated that the Minister had suggested that individual schools had the option to continue to teach languages out of their own resources however with budgets planned and a new financial year commencing this would be an unrealistic suggestion. He expressed his fears that in

the immediate future that it would be unlikely to be any language provision at primary schools in Northern Ireland. Comparing this to the rest of the United Kingdom, Councillor Wilson advised that the teaching of modern foreign languages such as French, Spanish and German in primary schools was being prioritised with Scotland increasing their investment so that by P5 children will have been introduced to three languages. Stating that the whole area needed to be revisited Councillor Wilson said that a centralised organised programme from Stormont which offers tutors a degree of job security and primary schools a reliable and committed resource for pupils was required.

*Councillor Mallaghan returned at 8.10pm*

Commenting on secondary schools Councillor Wilson advised that the European Studies Programme had been cut, a programme which had linked schools in Northern Ireland and the Republic with schools across Europe through sustained collaborative projects with the aim of furthering tolerance, mutual understanding and appreciation of the cultures of others. In an increasing globalised he suggested that Council look to fostering the economic wellbeing of children and young people by promoting skills in modern languages in order that they may take advantage of job opportunities within the European Union and farther afield.

Acknowledging that restraints on public spending was a fact of life in the current economic climate Councillor Wilson stated that sympathy could be extended to the Education Minister, and indeed any Minister, if they proved themselves responsible for their department budget. Stating that this was not the case with Education, he emphasised that it was disgraceful that a modern language programme was being axed at the same time as proposals being approved for a new Irish medium secondary school near Dungiven which would be neither viable nor sustainable. Quoting figures sourced from the development proposal for the school Councillor Wilson stated that the Ministers decision had met with opposition from his officials and the wishes of St Patricks, Maghera and had approved a school for an initial estimated intake of 14 pupils which would incur building costs of approximately £2.55 million plus utility costs, fees and VAT yet the budget for language support had been cut.

Councillor Wilson called on Members to support the motion and support children in Mid Ulster who had benefitted from both the modern languages and European studies programme.

Proposed by Councillor Wilson  
Seconded by Councillor McLean

*That Mid Ulster Council calls on the Department of Education to reconsider its decision to cut the modern languages programme for primary schools, and the European Studies programme for secondary schools, and further calls on the Minister to seek to reinstate the programmes after the June monitoring round.*

Councillor McPeake stated that he had spoken with the Minister for Education regarding the issue and had been advised that the cuts to the Executive budget over

the last five years was decimating public services; that overall in 2015 the education budget had been reduced by £97.6 million or 5% of the opening budget in 2014-15 and that the Department had worked to protect front line services and funding targeted at social deprivation and Special Education Needs as much as possible, to include:

- an extra £10m had been injected into the Educational Authority Block Grant;
- continuation of the eligibility criteria to post primary sector which has seen an extra 12,000 pupils, free school meals and uniforms;
- plans to extend the Common funding scheme transitional fund into 2015-2016 which alleviated losses to schools from the change due to Common Funding changes;
- protection to the Irish Medium post primary sector and for Traveller Children.

Councillor McPeake stated that due to the cuts proposed it would be impossible for the Education Department to sustain everything it had been doing and that the blame for these cuts lies at the door of the Conservative Government which seemed determined to decimate public services and hurting the most vulnerable within society by attacking low paid workers and those on welfare benefits. Stating that there was clearly a crisis he stated that there was also strong indications that the British Exchequer could apply a further £25billion more cuts to public services.

Concluding Councillor McPeake stated that Sinn Féin rejects the motion as it does not address the real issues or the problem from which they arise which is the savagery of the Tory cuts to which all parties need to unite against.

Councillor McLean stated that he noted the comments made on the Tory cuts yet Sinn Féin had made noises regarding welfare reform and this was costing more money on a daily basis and that they should sweep and wash their own doorstep.

The Chair, Councillor Dillon asked if the DUP were happy that the Tories kept taking money from the block grant.

Councillor Wilson stated he was disappointed that the motion was not receiving cross party support.

The Chair, Councillor Linda called for a vote on the motion;

For	20
Against	18

The Chair declared the motion carried.

#### **C99.6/15      Councillor Kearney to move the motion**

In the absence of Councillor Kearney, Councillor M Quinn moved the motion speaking on the benefits of investment in early education. He emphasised that it forms the building blocks of both the society and the economy and under investment



and a lack of long-term strategy in education not only fails children and young people but is detrimental to the economy and to social injustice. Advising that in the first three years of a child's life phenomenal growth in brain development takes place, Councillor M Quinn stated that these years were critical in steering the direction of children's future educational attainment thus ensuring standards are raised in early year development will give children the best start in life and provide a strong foundation for their active involvement in society.

He stated that the aim of the Early Years Fund was to sustain high quality early years services in areas of greatest need and is achieved through provision of direct services to children and families together with infrastructural support and capacity support to service providers. Outlining the key features of the fund which played a crucial role in the delivery of the Pre-School Education Programme Councillor M Quinn stated that cuts to the fund would mean a loss of £1.71 million to the voluntary and community sector which would lead to job losses, loss of 2,500 early childhood places including 620 places for children with special needs and over 250 places lost for children who do not speak English as their first language. Quoting from an Audit Office Report of February 2013, Councillor M Quinn reported that thousands of Northern Ireland's young people leave school unable to read or write indicating that in 2010-11 9000 pupils left full time education having failed to reach the required standard in literacy and numeracy.

Councillor M Quinn sought cross party support for the motion

Proposed by Councillor M Quinn  
Seconded by Councillor McAleer

*That this Council notes that investment in early education benefits our society and economy enormously; further notes how the Department of Education's Early Years' Fund contributes towards this; expresses its concern about the proposed reduction of £1.71 million to the Early Years' Fund and the risks this poses to 177 jobs and 2500 early childhood places, including over 620 children with Special Needs and calls on the Minister for Education to ensure this Fund is protected against cuts.*

Councillor McPeake stated that the motion was flawed and advised that the Early Years Fund was a legacy fund, created by the DHSSPS in 2004 to help sustain early childhood services which were experiencing difficulty when PEACE funding ended. Councillor McPeake further stated that the fund transferred to the department in 2006 and was still open to those groups who were in most need when the fund was established. He said he funding was still in place until August and even if funding ends 2,500 pre-school places will not be lost as they are funded through a different budget, if an establishment closes alternative places will be found and in exceptional circumstances where places are in isolated locations additional funds will be sourced to keep such units open. Concluding, Councillor McPeake stated that money lost to early years had been redirected into frontline classrooms and teachers and to return it to the early year's budget would mean the loss of 60 full time teaching posts. He stated that his party was opposed to the motion and called for all to stand against the Tory cuts.

Councillor Monteith concurred with Councillor McPeake's comments Tory cuts and stated that everyone should fight the cuts being imposed. He stated that it was a well-known fact in Dungannon that the Department did not have a good track record for listening and would not listen to Mid Ulster Council. Councillor Monteith paid tribute to parents in Dungannon and Coalisland for their ongoing campaign to secure early years places and for parents at Clinty Clay Primary School who opposed cuts noting that the Department could find the money to fight the parent's challenges. He said the Council should stand beside and support citizens especially if special needs funding was being endangered. Concluding that there was high child poverty in Dungannon Councillor Monteith expressed his support for the motion.

Councillor Cuddy stated that the UUP would too support the motion advising that in the past Dungannon Councillors had stood together for the good of the citizens. Advising that following the April Council meeting the UUP had taken comments back to their Minister Councillor Cuddy stated that Sinn Féin should do likewise as the Tories could not be blamed for everything.

Councillor McLean stated that the DUP would also support the motion stating that realities must be faced and that they were tired hearing about Tory cuts.

Councillor McGinley stated that Sinn Féin would continue to reject Tory cuts.

Councillor M Quinn expressed his thanks for the cross party support and stated that Sinn Féin should bring the message of the Council to their Minister.

Councillor Mullen asked if Sinn Féin members who availed of early year's places would withdraw their children to allow others to use the places, given the stance they were taking on the motion. The Chair, Councillor Dillon said that every child deserved their place and felt the Councillors comments were out of order.

The Chair, Councillor Dillon called for a vote.

For	20
Against	18

The Chair declared the motion carried.

#### **C99.7/15      Councillor Wilson to move the motion**

Councillor Wilson in moving the motion stated he was not as familiar with the full details surrounding Roxborough House, Moy but advised that the former Cookstown District Council had opposed the previous attempts to close Westlands in Cookstown since the first proposal in May 2013. Outlining the campaign Councillor Wilson referred to the undernoted all of which Cookstown Council had opposed:

*Councillor M Quinn left the meeting at 8.32pm*

- March 2014: HSSB consultation 'Making Choices' and the proposed criteria for change in Statutory Residential Homes, had placed on record its strong opposition to any changes which would result in Westlands closure;

- August 2014: Assessment of Need criteria and No Admissions policy – Cookstown Council had opposed deeming that no admissions equated to no future and also distorted the demands for places;
- September 2014: Councillors met with residents and staff of Westlands and used their comments as part of response to inform the Northern Ireland Local Commission Group - Assessment of Need for residential homes which again emphasised the need for investment in health services;

*Councillor McEldowney left the meeting at 8.34pm*

Councillor Wilson stated that the HSCB had now published the local Commissioning Group's findings which are somewhat unclear on Westland's future and indicate that a further consultation process is planned which creates further uncertainty for residents, their family and staff. He stated that he welcomed the news that no one would be asked to leave but who would maintain the facility.

*Councillor M Quinn returned at 8.35pm*

Proposed by Councillor Wilson  
Seconded by Councillor McNamee

*That this Council notes with deep concern the recent announcement by the H.S.C.B of a consultation on the future of Westlands Cookstown and Roxborough House Moy which Council understands, indicates and supports a process which will invariably lead to the closure of these two homes. This course of action is clearly unsatisfactory and inappropriate given the previous assurances between the legacy councils, Health and Social Care Boards, the Trusts and the Minister. Council opposes this course of action and calls for an immediate meeting with the HSCB and Trusts as a matter of urgency*

Councillor McNamee stating that he had met with residents, staff and family of Westlands and agreed with the motion emphasised that if places were made available there would be a waiting list for entry. He referred to pressure from the BBC Nolan Show from which residents received assurances from former Health Minister Edwin Poots that it would not close, but there were now concerns for its future.

*Councillor McEldowney returned to the meeting at 8.39pm*

Councillor T Quinn stated that the motion outlined the situation well and that every effort should be made to protect the residents as Councillors well new the anguish and stress the situation caused to families. Declaring support for the motion he said that once again Council should fight the cuts.

Councillor Buchanan stated that the needs of residents were paramount, emphasising that if it had not been for the DUP Minister Poots the home would be closed.

Councillor McGuigan stated that the former Dungannon Council had received the same assurances and whilst he supported the motion the bigger picture within health

was shifting towards 'transforming your care' and keeping people in their own homes.

Councillor Monteith expressed his support for the motion stating that yet again it was a Department which did not have a great track record of listening. Referring to the former Dungannon Council campaign for Roxborough and Loane House he indicated that when the term 'consultation' is used by the Trust it effectively means 'cut and close'. He stated there was a lack of a democratic process in the decision and that the Trust had been presented with over 8000 signatures which represented all elected representatives, the community and families who want the homes kept open but it appears to be falling on deaf ears. Councillor Monteith stated it was the duty of the civil service to deliver what the public want and that this consultation was an insult to the public.

Councillor Reid concurred with previous comments and stated that in effect there had only been a part turnaround in the decision as with no admissions the home would close. Councillor Reid stated that the public both needed and wanted the residential homes.

Councillor Bell called on the DUP and UUP to oppose cuts as it would be a good starting point. Councillor Wilson expressed his thanks for all who spoke in favour of the motion.

The Chair Councillor Dillon called for a vote.

For	38
Against	0

### **Confidential Business**

Proposed by Councillor S McGuigan  
Seconded by Councillor Gillespie and

**Resolved** That items C100/15 to C105/15 be taken in committee.

*The press left the meeting at 8.47pm*

### **C106/15 Duration of Meeting**

The meeting was called for 7pm and ended at 9.04pm .

CHAIR \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

**B**

**Minutes of Meeting of Planning Committee of Mid Ulster District Council held on Tuesday 2 June 2015 in Council Offices, Burn Road, Cookstown**

**Members Present**

Councillor Kearney, Chair

Councillors Bateson, Bell, Clarke, Cuthbertson, Gildernew, Glasgow, Mallaghan, McAleer, McEldowney, McKinney, McPeake, Mullen, Reid, Robinson, J Shiels

**Officers in Attendance**

Mr Tohill, Chief Executive  
Dr Boomer, Planning Manager  
Mr Bowman, Head of Development Management  
Ms Doyle, Senior Planning Officer  
Mr McGibbon, Senior Planning Officer  
Ms McKearney, Senior Planning Officer  
Mr Marrion, Senior Planning Officer  
Ms McCullagh, Senior Planning Officer  
Ms McEvoy, Head of Development Plan and Enforcement  
Miss Thompson, Committee Services/ Senior Admin Officer

**Others in Attendance**

Councillors Forde and M Quinn

Applicant Speakers  
H/2014/0046/O – Mr Damien Kearney  
I/2014/0226/F – Messrs Brady and McLoughlin  
I/2014/0314/O – Ms Carol McIlvar  
M/2015/0115/O – Mr Liam Currie  
M/2015/0156/O – Mr Francis Loughran

The meeting commenced at 7.05 pm.

**P46/15      Apologies**

None

**P47/15      Declarations of Interest**

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

Councillor Mallaghan declared an interest in application M/2014/0314/O advising that he would be speaking on this application later in the meeting.

Councillor Cuthbertson declared an interest in application M/2015/0086/F.

## **P48/15      Condolences**

On behalf of all Members of the Planning Committee, Councillor Reid offered condolences to the Chair, Councillor Kearney on the recent death of his brother.

## **P49/15      Business at Committee Meetings**

Proposed by Councillor Mallaghan  
Seconded by Councillor J Shiels and

**Resolved**      That planning committee meetings be held over two nights, with one meeting to deal with planning applications (development management) and the second meeting to deal with all other planning matters

The Chair proposed that, in dealing with planning applications for determination at the meeting, the applications of those who have requested to speak be taken first.

Members were in agreement with this proposal.

Councillor Mallaghan requested that papers on planning applications at future meetings be issued in the order on which persons had requested speaking rights for, followed by the remaining applications for determination.

## **P50/15      Receive and Confirm Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 5 May 2015**

Proposed by Councillor Cuthbertson  
Seconded by Councillor Glasgow and

**Resolved**      That the minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on Tuesday 5 May 2015, (P35/15 – P40/15 & P45/15), were considered and signed as accurate and correct.

## **Matters for Decision**

### **P51/15      Planning Applications for Determination**

The Chair drew Members attention to the undernoted planning applications for determination.

#### **H/2014/0046/O      Hotel Development between Glenshane Filling Station, 31 Glenshane Road and 10 Fallaghaloon Road, Maghera for M Bradley**

Ms Doyle (SPO) presented report on planning application H/2014/0046/O advising that it be recommended for refusal.

The Chair advised the committee that a request to speak on the application had been received and invited Mr Kearney to address the committee.

Mr Kearney spoke in relation to roads issues stating that access to the site had already been moved which was thought to have been acceptable to bring the application to approval. As further movement for access is now required consent from third party land is needed which is not available. Mr Kearney spoke of the unique site and the potential for employment in the area and would welcome further discussions with the Planners and TransportNI.

The Planning Manager referred to the large commercial premises next to the proposed site and asked if shared access had been explored.

Mr Kearney advised that this had been investigated but was found not to be acceptable.

Proposed by Councillor Reid  
Seconded by Councillor McElDowney and

**Resolved** That application H/2014/0046/O be deferred for an office meeting.

**I/2014/0226/F            Wind turbine up to 3mw capacity at 860m N of 24c Dirnan Road, Cookstown for Mr Robert Lennox**

The Head of Development Management presented a report on planning application I/2014/0226/F advising that it is recommended for refusal.

The Chair advised the committee that a request to speak on the application had been received and invited Messrs Brady and McLoughlin to address the committee.

Mr McLoughlin stated that the only issue of contention relating to this application was visual impact as other issues such as noise and shadow flicker have been adequately addressed. He advised that views of the turbine are mainly from the south with some views from the east and referred to other turbines which have been approved on southern and eastern slopes of the hill. He added that the proposed turbine would not be located on the summit of the hill and would be viewed largely as sitting in the middle of the slope without breaking the skyline. Mr McLoughlin also made reference to the social and economic benefits of the turbine stating that it was capable of generating electricity for around 2,000 homes and that erection and ongoing maintenance of the turbine would create jobs.

Councillor Reid queried whether the application could be moved to a lower location.

Mr McLoughlin advised that a smaller turbine would not be acceptable to the applicant.

Councillor Reid suggested that this application be deferred.

The Planning Manager advised that this application had already been deferred several times, the size of the turbine was double what was usually seen and that the proposed location was an important landscape. He added that Members needed to consider the cost/benefit of the proposal.



Councillor Bateson commented that it was unusual that no objections had been received on this application.

Proposed by Councillor Mallaghan  
Seconded by Councillor Bell and

**Resolved** That planning application I/2014/0226/F be refused on the grounds stated in the officers report.

**I/2014/0314/O      Infill dwelling and garage at 50m S of 58 Annaghquinn Road, Rock for Ms Elaine Murphy**

Ms McCullough (SPO) presented a report on planning application I/2014/0314/O advising that it be recommended for refusal.

Councillor Mallaghan declared an interest in this application and requested to address the committee.

Councillor Mallaghan stated that this application was previously brought before Cookstown District Council and deferred. He stated that the proposed dwelling was situated along a laneway and that all dwellings on this laneway belonged to the same family. He added the applicant for the proposed dwelling had been given the site by her father. Councillor Mallaghan felt that the proposed dwelling was a perfect example of an infill site, would integrate into the landscape and would be no more prominent than buildings which already existed.

The Chair requested that Councillor Mallaghan did not take part in any further discussions on the application and that should a vote be taken, the Councillor would not be eligible to vote.

The Chair advised the committee that a request to speak on the application had also been received from Ms McIlvar and invited her to address the committee.

Ms McIlvar advised that the proposed dwelling would respect plot sizes and frontages, and circulated a map showing the plot sizes for existing and proposed buildings. She felt that the proposed dwelling qualified as a gap site in a continuous line. Ms McIlvar also advised that the applicant was willing to accept a 6m ridge height along with conditions on a level of under-build and concluded that the proposed dwelling could integrate easily into the landscape.

The Planning Manager referred to difficulties regarding integration of the proposed dwelling advising that it would be able to be seen from a distance. The Planning Manager's concern was noted with regard to the Council being audited against Department policies and urged the Committee to take caution when making a decision on this application.

Ms McIlvar advised that the application was a genuine rural dweller case and that the applicant comes from a family of seven.

Proposed by Councillor Cuthbertson  
Seconded by Councillor J Shiels

That planning application I/2014/0314/O is refused.

Councillor McPeake felt that the rural character of the landscape would not be dramatically changed by this proposed dwelling but it would be helpful to see if the prominence of the dwelling could be reduced further.

Councillor Bell spoke of the need for Council to be able to challenge planning policy.

The Planning Manager advised that integration should not be man made through planting or creating an alien landscape.

Councillor Gildernew referred to a lot of farming families being in a similar situation and also supported Councillor Bell's comments regarding challenging planning policy.

Proposed by Councillor McPeake  
Seconded by Councillor Gildernew

That application I/2014/0314/O be deferred for additional drawings to be produced on creating an improved engineering solution.

The Planning Manager advised Members that the issues relating to this application cannot be resolved and reminded Members that Council will be audited on adherence to Department policies.

Members voted on Councillor Cuthbertson's proposal –

For	6
Against	7
Abstained	1

Councillor Bateson concurred with other Members that the current planning policy affecting this application was inadequate.

In addressing the Committee Ms McIlvar confirmed that following advice given by the Planning Manager, application I/2014/0314/O would be withdrawn but urged Members to look at the planning policy when preparing the new area plan.

**I/2014/0334/F      Replacement of existing chain boundary fence at Dunman  
factory, 139 Moneymore Road, Cookstown for Dale Farm  
Ltd**

Ms McCullough (SPO) presented report on planning application I/2014/0334/F advising that it be recommended for approval.

The Chair advised the committee that a request to speak on the application had been received and invited Mr McCarter to address the committee.

Mr McCarter advised that this application is to replace an existing boundary fence at Dunman factory, Moneymore Road, Cookstown with an acoustic fence. Mr McCarter advised that the replacement of this fence will eliminate noise from the factory and believed the applicant was taking a proactive approach.

Proposed by Councillor Cuthbertson  
Seconded by Councillor Robinson and

**Resolved** That planning application I/2014/0334/F be approved subject to conditions as per the officers report.

**M/2015/0156/O      Installation of a 25m high lattice tower with 6 no. antennas and 2 no. dishes at 98m SW of 44 Drumflugh Road, Derrycreevy, Benburb for Arqiva Ltd**

Mr Marrion (SPO) presented report on planning application M/2015/0156/O advising that it be recommended for approval.

The Chair advised the committee that a request to speak on the application had been received and invited Mr Loughran to address the meeting.

Mr Loughran advised that the proposed mast site forms part of a publicly funded programme called the Mobile Infrastructure Project (MIP) which seeks to deliver coverage to disadvantaged communities throughout the UK that have no mobile coverage.

Councillor Gildernew welcomed the proposed application and the improvement to mobile coverage.

Proposed by Councillor Gildernew  
Seconded by Councillor Robinson and

**Resolved** That planning application M/2015/0156/O be approved subject to conditions as per the officers report.

## **CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS**

The Chair requested that three applications be taken as confidential business:

**M/2015/0115/O      Dwelling and garage at lands immediately S of 9 Creenagh Road, Coalisland for Mr Daryl Dillon**

**M/2015/0016/F      Dwelling and garage adjacent to and W of 66 Mullaghmarget Road, Dungannon for Mr Connor McKearney**

**I/2014/0403/O      Infill bungalow and garage at lands 38m NW of 30 Mullan Road, Cookstown for Mr Anthony Rocks**

Proposed by Councillor Gildernew  
Seconded by Councillor Clarke and

**Resolved** That applications M/2015/0115/O, M/2015/0016/F and I/2014/0403/O be taken as confidential business.

*Open Business resumed at 9.25pm*

The Chair advised and it was agreed by the committee that the remaining planning applications be taken as recommended within their report unless Members had specific comments to make.

**I/2011/0422/F      Retention of imported fill at 67 Dunamore Road, Cookstown for Mr Raymond Loughran**

Application listed for approval subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

**H/2011/0520/F      Erection of wind turbine 90m SW of 4 Glenone Road, Clady for Mr James Birt**

Application listed for refusal on the grounds stated in the officer's report.

**I/2012/0446F      Proposed shale mineral extraction, storage, phased restoration concrete batching plant and associated storage silos at lands 280m N of 204 Carnlough Road, Pomeroy for McAleer Sand and Gravel Ltd**

Application listed for approval subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

**I/2013/0316/F      Renovation and extension of existing dwelling and conversion of outbuilding to form 2 residential units at lands at 31 Cookstown Road, Moneymore for Mr Brian Lavery**

Application listed for approval subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

**I/2014/0089/F      4 semi-detached dwellings at lands adjacent to 10-16 Westbury Gardens, Cookstown for Titanic Suites Belfast Ltd**

Application listed for approval subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

**M/2014/0134/F      Extension to existing factory at 110 Gortgonis Road, Coalisland for Toubaki Ltd**

Application listed for approval subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

**I/2014/0174/LBC      Removal of 2.4m of front boundary wall at Loy Street,  
Cookstown for Mr Shane Beckett**

Application listed for approval subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

**H/2014/0189/F      Dwelling adjacent to 24 Beechland Road, Magherafelt for Mr  
A Booth**

Councillor Forde requested a deferral for this application.

Proposed by Councillor McPeake  
Seconded by Councillor Mullen

That application H/2014/0189/F be deferred for office meeting.

The Planning Manager advised that this application is a clear refusal and reminded Members that a similar application had been refused last month at an adjacent property.

It was agreed that the above proposal be amended as;

Proposed by Councillor McKinney  
Seconded by Councillor Reid and

**Resolved**      That the application above be deferred for 1 month for any new/relevant information to be provided and brought back to committee for determination otherwise authority is delegated to the Planning Manager to refuse the application.

Councillor McEldowney indicated that she felt the precedent had been set at the previous month's meeting and that this application should hence be refused.

**M/2014/0251/F      Refurbishment of toilets and extension to bar at 241  
Derryfubble Road and extension to rear of shop at 61 Main  
Street, Benburb for Mr Brendan McAnallen**

**M/2014/0307/LBC      Refurbishment of toilets and extension to bar at 241  
Derryfubble Road and extension to rear of shop at 61 Main  
Street, Benburb for Mr Brendan McAnallen**

Councillor M Quinn requested a deferral for the above applications stating that the applicants are awaiting a meeting with NIEA.

The Planning Manager advised that there were a number of issues with the aforementioned applications on which clarity was required.

Proposed by Councillor Reid  
Seconded by Councillor McKinney and

**Resolved** That the aforementioned applications be deferred for 1 month for additional information to be provided and brought back to committee for determination otherwise authority is delegated to the Planning Manager to refuse this application.

**H/2014/0320/F**      **Alterations to existing dwelling to create an additional storey at 12 Collshinney Heights, Magherafelt for Ms Emma Nicholls**

Application listed for approval subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

**M/2014/0404/F**      **Erection of an additional high welfare broiler house at existing poultry farm, including shed for storage of wood pellets for alternative energy production and associated works at lands approximately 240m SE of 106 Knockmanny Road, Augher for Mr Roy Wright**

Application listed for approval subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

**I/2014/0409/F**      **2 no. two storey semi-detached dwellings at 84 Orritor Road, Cookstown for Bell Contracts**

Application listed for refusal on the grounds stated in the officer's report.

**I/2014/0412/F**      **Variance of condition 3 of planning approval I/2014/0040/F at 410m N of 73 Dunamore Road, Dungate, Cookstown for Mr Gerard Loughran**

Application listed for refusal on the grounds stated in the officer's report.

**H/2014/0422/F**      **Retrospective change of use from garden store to part-time hairdressing salon adjacent to 87A Annaghmore Road, Castledawson for Mrs Laureen King**

Application listed for approval subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

**H/2014/0455/O**      **Retirement dwelling and garage 210m SSE of 74 and 50m SW of 72 Lismoyle Road, Swatragh for Mr J T Boyd**

Application listed for refusal on the grounds stated in the officer's report.

**I/2015/0003/A**      **Retention of LED variable message electronic display at 153a Morgans Hill Road, Cookstown for Mr Liam Eastwood**

Application listed for refusal on the grounds stated in the officer's report.

**I/2015/0057/F**      **Dwelling and garage at 40m NE of 29 Dunnabraggy Road, Moneymore for Ms Muriel E Stewart**

Application listed for approval subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

**M/2015/0086/F      Rear extension to dwelling at 85 Dergenagh Road,  
Dungannon for Mrs Gail Cuthbertson**

Application listed for approval subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

Proposed by Councillor Mallaghan  
Seconded by Councillor Reid and

**Resolved**      That approval is granted to progress the aforementioned planning applications as detailed above in relation to applications –  
I/2011/0422/F, H/2011/0520/F, I/2012/0446/F, I/2013/0316/F,  
I/2014/0089/F, M/2014/0134/F, I/2014/0174/LBC, H/2014/0189/F,  
M/2014/0251/F, M/2014/0307/LBC, H/2014/0320/F, M/2014/0404/F,  
I/2014/0409/F, I/2014/0412/F, H/2014/0422/F, H/2014/0455/O,  
I/2015/0003/A, I/2015/0057/F, M/2015/0086/F.

**P52/15      Position Paper Seven – Open Space, Recreation and Leisure**

**Resolved**      That Position Paper Seven, Open Space, Recreation and Leisure be considered at a future planning meeting focused on Development Plan and Enforcement

**P53/15      Position Paper Eight – Tourism**

**Resolved**      That Position Paper Eight, Tourism be considered at a future planning meeting focused on Development Plan and Enforcement.

**P54/15      Work Programme for Sustainability Assessment incorporating  
Strategic Environmental Assessment**

The Planning Manager advised that in order to comply with legislation relating to the Local Development Plan Council must undertake a Sustainability Assessment and a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SA / SEA) of the plan. It would be essential that work on building the evidence base for these pieces of work be continued and completed prior to the publication of the Plan Timetable and Statement of Community Involvement in early 2016.

Members were directed to the report which provided an explanation of the legislative requirements for the Sustainability Assessment and Strategic Environmental Assessment and suggested indicators for the Assessment.

The Planning Manager referred to the need to establish a multi-disciplinary steering group made up of Council Directors and key consultees to fully assess the extent to which the emerging plan would contribute to achieving relevant, environmental, economic and social objectives.

He advised there was presentation available on this issue but due to time constraints at the meeting it would be provided at a future date.

Proposed by Councillor McPeake  
Seconded by Councillor McAleer and

**Resolved** That a multi-disciplinary steering group be established to begin work on producing a Sustainability Assessment incorporating Strategic Environmental Assessment.

Councillor Mallaghan further proposed that the Chair and Deputy Chair of this committee also sit on the above steering group.

**Resolved** That the Chair and Deputy Chair of the Planning Committee also sit on the steering group to chair proceedings.

**P55/15 Draft Statement of Community Involvement**

The Planning Manager made reference to paper on Draft Statement of Community Involvement stating it should be taken as read and agreed to proceed as detailed in the paper.

**Resolved** That all recommendations outlined in the Draft Statement of Community Involvement be approved.

**P56/15 Council response to consultation on Draft Northern Ireland Regional Landscape Charter Assessment (NIRLCA) 2015**

The Planning Manager referred to the consultation on the draft Northern Ireland Regional Landscape Character Assessment 2015 and outlined a draft response stating the NIRLCA was not fit for purpose and seemed to suggest that Councils should carry the financial burden of preparing further studies at a local level.

The Planning Manager added that the study should adopt a more strategic approach by highlighting Northern Ireland's key landscape assets and act to interpret the original 130 LCA model.

The Planning Manager also highlighted that there was insufficient clarification regarding the status of the existing LCA once the NIRLCA is in place.

Proposed by Councillor Clarke  
Seconded by Councillor Cuthbertson and

**Resolved** That Council respond to the consultation on Draft Northern Ireland Regional Landscape Charter Assessment 2015 as detailed in report dated 2 June 2015.

**Matters for Information**

**P57/15 Report of Delegated Decisions Issued in April 2015**

Members noted the content of the report of delegated decisions issued in April 2015.



## **CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS**

Proposed by Councillor Mallaghan  
Seconded by Councillor J Shiels and

**Resolved** That items P58/15 – P64/15 be taken as confidential business.

### **P65/15 Duration of Meeting**

The meeting was called for 7.00pm and ended at 10.45 pm.

Chair \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

C

**Minutes of Meeting of Policy and Resources Committee of Mid Ulster District Council held on Thursday 4 June 2015 in the Council Offices, Burn Road, Cookstown**

**Members Present:** Councillor Sean McGuigan, Chair  
Councillors Ashton, Bateson, Buchanan, Cuddy, Elattar, Forde, Mallaghan, McKinney, McLean, McPeake, Molloy, M. Quinn, T. Quinn and Totten

**Officers in Attendance:** Mr A Tohill, Chief Executive  
Mrs M Canavan, Lead Officer for HR  
Mrs G Dyson, Head of Human Resources  
Ms U Mezza, Head of Marketing Communications  
Mr P Moffett, Head of Democratic Services  
Mr B O'Hagan, Head of ICT  
Mr JJ Tohill, Lead Officer for Finance  
Mrs M Grogan, Committee Services/Senior Admin Officer

The meeting commenced at 7.00 p.m.

**PR89/15 Apologies**

Councillor Phelim Gildernew.

**PR90/15 Declaration of Interest**

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

**PR91/15 Receive and confirm minutes of the Policy & resources Committee held on Thursday 4 June 2015**

**Amendment**

Councillor Bateson clarified an amendment he made at the Council meeting relating to PR75/15 page 3, paragraph 8, to be added to read "Circulation of papers should be independently assessed"

Proposed by Councillor McPeake  
Seconded by Councillor McKinney and

**Resolved:** That the minutes of the meeting of the Policy & Resources Committee held on Monday 11 May 2015 (PR71/15 – PR88/15) were considered and subject to the foregoing amendments, signed as accurate and correct.

## **Matters for Decision**

### **PR92/15      Appointment of Diversity Champion**

The Head of Democratic Services presented a report on the Appointment of a Diversity Champion and advised that the purpose of the report was to consider a request from the Local Government Staff Commission inviting a member(s) and officer(s) to act as Diversity Champions for Mid Ulster District Council.

The Head of Democratic Services recommended that a Diversity Champion be drawn from council's elected members and an officer be appointed by the Chief Executive, subject to council agreement on involvement in the initiative.

Nominations were sought:

Proposed by Councillor McLean

That Councillor M Quinn be the Diversity Champion.

Councillor T Quinn in his capacity as the SDLP Deputy Group Leader thanked Councillor McLean for the nomination, but would decline at this stage.

Proposed by Councillor Molloy  
Seconded by Councillor McPeake and

**Resolved:** That it be recommended to the Council that Councillor Mallaghan be nominated as Diversity Champion for Mid Ulster District Council and that the Chief Executive nominate an officer.

### **PR93/15      Mid Ulster District Council Equality Scheme**

The Head of Democratic Services presented a report on Mid Ulster District Council's draft Equality Scheme and advised that it was to update members on its current status and to present correspondence received from the Equality Commission.

The Head of Democratic Services recommended that members consider the correspondence from the Equality Commission and consider for approval the amended Equality Scheme.

Proposed by Councillor McLean  
Seconded by Councillor Forde and

**Resolved:** That it be recommended to the Council to accept the recommendation of the Head of Democratic Services, to approve the amended Equality Scheme and submit with the Equality Commission for Northern Ireland.

## **PR94/15      Mid Ulster District Council Draft Procurement Policy**

The Lead Officer for Finance presented a report on the draft Procurement Policy updating a version previously submitted to Policy and Resources Committee on Tuesday 3 February 2015.

The Lead Officer for Finance recommended that the draft Policy as previously circulated be adopted.

Councillor Mallaghan enquired on the use of evidence from works previously undertaken by Contractors' and how this could be sought.

The Lead Officer for Finance advised that it would now be a requirement for all Contractors to declare any issues with past contracts including Public Sector contracts and if none were declared and subsequently uncovered then this would result in a breach of contract. He added that documentation on declaration of breaches would be included in all tender documentation being issued.

Councillor Mallaghan suggested organising a meet the buyer style workshop for local businesses, inviting them to get involved and give them an opportunity to make quotation and tender submissions with the council.

The Lead Officer for Finance advised that an estimated contract value of £30,000 would require four quotations and each officer would be responsible for seeking same.

Proposed by Councillor Mallaghan  
Seconded by Councillor McLean and

**Resolved:** That it be recommended to the Council to set up a workshop for local businesses in Mid Ulster area.

Councillor McLean stated the need for procurement to be kept within a Northern Ireland context. He added that, if a tender was in any other jurisdiction, it would be kept within the area and hence would therefore like the same for Mid Ulster District. He enquired if a maximum of six people tendered, would they be rolled over until the next given opportunity.

The Lead Officer for Finance stated that there would be no difficulty in doing this as an organisation could have the quantity but may not have the quality. An addendum can be established on quality if required.

In response to a query from Councillor McLean on Exceptional Circumstances on page 13, item 5.7 the Lead Officer for Finance advised that this was included to provide for unforeseen eventualities such as no available Committee Meetings to seek

approval, a missed opportunity to go to Council and a 60 day deadline where the only mechanism would be to use the exceptional circumstance.

The Chief Executive stated that an exceptional circumstance would be exceptional and added that the Council would strive to have social clauses on construction built into contracts, where practical.

Councillor Cuddy stated that he would like the opportunity to see monthly expenditure on contracts which had been the case with the former Dungannon and South Tyrone Borough Council.

The Lead Officer for Finance advised that monthly costings would be brought separately to the Audit Committee as this would represent an opportunity to see all Council expenditure and performances.

Councillor Cuddy felt that figures should be brought to the Policy and Resources Committee as Councillors at the said committee would be responsible if anything went wrong.

The Lead Officer for Finance stated that the Council was dealing with various issues including the preparation of accounts and the budgets but indicated that reports could be routinely made available.

Councillor Molloy welcomed the implementation of the social clause but raised concern regarding Contractors using zero hour employment contracts.

The Lead Officer for Finance stated that zero hour contracts were not illegal but agreed to seek legal advice if this could be included within the overall social clause.

Councillor Mallaghan referred to a local business expressing an interest in providing catering services for the Council.

The Lead Officer for Finance stated quotations that all quotations would be considered and if over the threshold of £30,000 then it would become a tender exercise. He said policy emphasis is on accountability and officer decisions will be in line with the policy.

Proposed by Councillor Mallaghan  
Seconded by Councillor McLean and

**Resolved:** That it be recommended to the Council to accept the recommendation of the Lead Officer for Finance and adopt the Procurement Policy.

## **PR95/15      Nominations for Panel Members in Relation to the Chief Executive Appraisal Procedure**

*The Chief Executive left the room*

The Lead Officer for HR presented a report and sought member nominations for a panel in relation to the Chief Executive's performance appraisal.

The Lead Officer for HR recommended that five elected members be nominated using the d'hondt method to ensure at least one from each political group on the Council is represented on the panel.

The following nominations were made:

- SF      - Councillor McPeake nominated Councillors Mallaghan and Dillon
- SDLP   - Councillor T Quinn nominated Councillor M Quinn
- UUP    - Councillor McKinney nominated Councillor Cuddy
- DUP    - Councillor McLean nominated Councillor Ashton

**Resolved:** That it be recommended to the Council that Councillors Mallaghan, Dillon, M Quinn, Cuddy, and Ashton be nominated to the performance appraisal panel.

*The Chief Executive returned to the room*

## **Matters for Information**

### **PR96/15      Partnership Panel in N Ireland – Draft Work Plan 2015-2019**

The Head of Democratic Services presented a report to update members on the Partnership Panel for Northern Ireland activity and its draft Work Plan for 2015-2019.

He asked that members note receipt of the draft Work Plan and provide comment, as appropriate for feedback to the Joint Secretariat of the Partnership Panel.

Councillor McPeake stated that NILGA does a good job for local Councils and was dismayed to discover that their funding had been severely cut from various funding streams. He enquired if NILGA's annual membership could be paid in one instalment instead of two given its financial situation.

The Chief Executive advised that NILGA had agreed to a two instalment payment and at no time were the Council aware of any difficulty. He clarified the breakdown of the NILGA membership subscription making reference to an element being for National

Joint Council activity, of which there were currently discussions taking place on how it would be delivered for local government in the future. The Chief Executive added that the full invoice could be paid if the Committee were wished to proceed. Councillor McLean stated that this could be reviewed at a later date.

Councillor McPeake requested that a briefing on the National Joint Council should be provided to members at a future meeting.

#### **PR97/15      NILGOSC Audit of Inequalities**

The Lead Officer for HR presented a report to inform members of the new Section 75 Audit received from NILGOSC identifying inequalities which existed for those affected by the functions and policies of the NILGOSC Pension Scheme.

Noted

#### **PR98/15      HR Policies Progress Update**

The Lead Officer for HR presented a report to update members on the status of HR policies for Mid Ulster District Council and mechanism for developing and taking them forward. She advised that members will be kept informed regarding progress on Policies for Mid Ulster District Council.

Noted

#### **Confidential Business**

Proposed by Councillor Mallaghan  
Seconded by Councillor M Quinn

**Resolved:** That items (PR99/15 – PR102/15) be taken as confidential business.

#### **PR103/15      Duration of Meeting**

The meeting commenced at 7.00 pm and ended at 8.30 pm.

CHAIR \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_



**D**

**Minutes of Meeting of Environment Committee of Mid Ulster District Council  
held on Tuesday 9 June 2015 in the Council Offices, Burn Road, Cookstown**

<b>Members Present</b>	Councillor McFlynn, Chair  Councillors Burton, Cuddy, Cuthbertson, Gillespie, Kearney, McGinley, B McGuigan, S McGuigan, McNamee, Mullen (7.10 pm), Totten
<b>Officers in Attendance</b>	Mr Cassells, Director of Environment and Property Mr Currie, Lead Building Control Officer (Cookstown) Mr Kelso, Director of Public Health and Infrastructure Mr Lowry, Head of Technical Services Mr McAdoo, Head of Environmental Services Mrs McClements, Head of Environmental Health Mr Scullion, Head of Property Services Miss Thompson, Committee Services/ Senior Admin Officer
<b>Others in Attendance</b>	Councillor Ashton  Eco Schools Programme, Ms Fyfe

The meeting commenced at 7.01 pm

**E84/15      Apologies**

Councillors Buchanan, Glasgow and J O'Neill

**E85/15      Declarations of Interest**

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

**E86/15      Eco Schools Programme**

Ms Fyfe provided Members with a presentation on the Eco Schools Programme.

Members were advised that the Eco Schools Programme is an international programme with participation from 59 countries and 15 million pupils. She said Northern Ireland is the only country participating in the Programme to achieve 100% registration and advised that this year is the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Programme.

Ms Fyfe said the Eco Schools Programme seeks to promote environmental awareness and practical actions which can be linked to the school curriculum and carried through the whole school and into the wider community.

*Councillor Mullen entered the meeting at 7.10 pm*

Schools participating in the Programme all follow a seven step process and can choose from 10 topics to base their study. She added that participants in the Eco Schools Programme can achieve various levels of awards, the highest being the internationally recognised Green Flag accreditation.

Relating the Eco Schools Programme to Mid Ulster, Members were advised that 127 schools were registered in the Programme with 47 schools achieving a Green Flag.

Future plans for the Programme include developing the Ambassador School Award and strengthening working relationships with Councils and local businesses. Ms Fyfe also referred to the International Operators Meeting taking place in Belfast in November 2015 which will be an opportunity to showcase good practice in Northern Ireland.

The Chair thanked Ms Fyfe for her presentation and spoke in support of the Eco Schools Programme.

Councillor Kearney commended the work of the Eco Schools Programme and their positive links with schools.

In response to Councillor Burton's comments Ms Fyfe advised that work is ongoing with schools to support and encourage achievement towards Green Flag accreditation. In relation to uptake from rural/urban schools, Ms Fyfe advised that there was no remarkable difference in the level of uptake between types of schools.

*Ms Fyfe and Councillor Ashton left the meeting at 7.20pm*

**E87/15      Confirm minutes of the Environment Committee meeting held on Tuesday 12 May 2015**

Proposed by Councillor McNamee  
Seconded by Councillor B McGuigan and

**Resolved**      That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Environment Committee held on Tuesday 12 May 2015 (E54/15 – E75/15 and E83/15) were considered and signed as accurate and correct.

Under Item 66/15, Street Trading Procedures, Councillor S McGuigan raised an issue in relation to a trader in the Dungannon area whose street trading licence expired under the legacy Council. He said the application to renew this licence was made under the legacy council which cost in the region of £600 however he noted if the applicant had waited a short period of time the same application could have been made under Mid Ulster District Council's fee structure which would have saved the applicant £400.

Councillor S McGuigan asked that given the application was made so close to the changeover of fees could it be reviewed.

The Director of Public Health and Infrastructure advised that the details relating to this case would be reviewed.

Councillor Cuddy stated that any similar cases would need to be reviewed equally.

## **Matters for Decision**

### **E88/15      Proposed 40mph Speed Limit at Clonoe, Coalisland and Galbally, Dungannon**

The Director of Environment and Property presented the previously circulated report in relation to a proposal from TransportNI to introduce a 40mph speed limit at Clonoe, Coalisland and Galbally, Dungannon.

Proposed by Councillor Gillespie  
Seconded by Councillor Cuthbertson and

**Resolved**      That it be recommended to Council to agree to the proposal made by TransportNI to introduce 40mph speed limits at Clonoe, Coalisland and Galbally, Dungannon

Councillor Gillespie stated that this proposal was previously brought before Dungannon and South Tyrone Borough Council and questioned why it was being brought back to Mid Ulster District Council. The Councillor believed that this proposal was agreed long ago and signage should have been erected by this stage.

The Director of Environment and Property said that the reason the proposal had been brought back to this Council could be due to a process issue on the part of TransportNI. The Director advised that he would request an update from TransportNI in relation to timeframe for erection of signage when advising that Council is in agreement with the proposal.

### **E89/15      Proposed Disabled Parking Bay at Hillcrest, Aughnacloy**

The Director of Environment and Property presented the previously circulated report in relation to proposal from TransportNI to introduce a Disabled Parking Bay at Hillcrest, Aughnacloy.

Proposed by Councillor Burton  
Seconded by Councillor S McGuigan and

**Resolved**      That it be recommended to Council to agree to the proposal made by TransportNI to introduce a Disabled Parking Bay at Hillcrest, Aughnacloy

### **E/90/15      Charges for acceptance of recyclable commercial waste at Recycling Centres**

The Head of Environmental Services presented the previously circulated report seeking approval for the proposed scale of charges for the acceptance and disposal of recyclable commercial waste at Council Recycling Centres.

Members were reminded that at the Environment Committee meeting on 8 October 2014 charges were agreed for the disposal of residual commercial waste at Recycling Centres, there are however a range of recyclable waste materials that are

also accepted from commercial sources at recycling centres and that alignment of charges for same was required to ensure a consistent approach across all facilities.

Councillor McNamee referred to the disposal of tyres, where they should be taken and how to ensure they are disposed of properly.

The Head of Environmental Services advised that some recycling centre sites are not licensed to accept tyres. Members were advised that in general when the public dispose of tyres, via commercial premises, a disposal fee would be included in the cost of their transaction to cover the levy the premises must pay to dispose of them.

The Director of Environment and Property advised that the report related to commercial waste in which the items being discussed would be in larger quantities and bulkier than that coming from a domestic property.

Councillor Cuddy enquired if recycling centres would receive “domestic tyres.”

The Director of Environment and Property advised that this material had been accepted in the past but highlighted to Members that tyres cannot be landfilled.

Councillor McGinley felt that the term “domestic tyres” should not be used as a negotiation tool for disposal.

Councillor Burton raised concern in relation to the disposal of tyres fearing that there may be an increase in instances of this type of flytipping.

In response to Councillor B McGuigan’s question relating to how the disposal of tyres is monitored the Director of Public Health and Infrastructure advised that NIEA is the regulator for disposal of waste material, not only for Council but also for premises such as those commercial businesses dealing with waste tyres. The Director also commented that government are currently looking at a producer responsibility scheme for tyres.

The Director of Environment and Property also referred to interest from cement producers who can use waste tyres as an alternative form of producing energy at their premises.

Proposed by Councillor B McGuigan  
Seconded by Councillor S McGuigan and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to approve the report on the proposed scale of charges for the acceptance of recyclable commercial waste at Council Recycling Centres

## **E91/15      Grounds Maintenance Review of Grass Cutting**

The Head of Property Services presented the previously circulated report seeking approval on proposal to conduct a review of Grounds Maintenance service, with a focus on grass cutting.

Councillor Burton referred to other arrangements previously carried out by grounds maintenance such as tidy ups at unfinished housing developments and the need for

this to be included in any such review. The Member also expressed the importance for grass cutting to be carried out at road junctions in rural areas as a matter of safety.

The Head of Property Services advised that grass cutting of rural roads remains the responsibility of TransportNI.

Councillor Burton also highlighted the upcoming Clogher Valley Show and felt that officers needed to be mindful of any events taking place throughout the District in which maintenance may be required on approach roads beforehand.

The Director of Environment and Property referred to correspondence circulated to Members which detailed the response from Minister for Regional Development in relation to reduced level of service of his department.

Councillor Cuddy enquired if there were any economies of scale to be achieved from the merging of Councils in relation to grass cutting service.

The Director of Environment and Property advised that Council's standard of service has not changed from what it was last year and highlighted that Council has no responsibility for grass cutting along roads but does so as a discretionary measure and for amenity value. He raised concern that there is an expectation on Council to continue all levels of service despite cuts and hoped that the review will address all issues and bring to light any possible efficiencies.

Proposed by Councillor B McGuigan  
Seconded by Councillor Cuthbertson and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to approve the carrying out of a review into the Grounds Maintenance service with particular emphasis to be given to grass cutting and consideration towards special events held throughout the District

## **E92/15      Entertainment Licensing**

The Lead Building Control Officer presented the previously circulated report advising Members of a consultation issued by the Department of the Environment on proposed amendments to Entertainment Licensing Legislation. He said the consultation paper contains proposals and recommendations for amendments to the current legislation and licensing regime.

Councillor McNamee referred to recommendation 19 which states –

*“Where entertainment is provided at a place which has an alcohol licence, the latest time of the entertainment licence should be aligned with the latest permitted time for the consumption of alcohol on those premises.”*

Councillor McNamee felt that this recommendation does not work in anyone's favour and that flexibility is needed in dealing with different types of events. The Member expressed concern that this recommendation would also have the effect of bringing everyone onto the streets at the same time which gives rise to other problems.

The Director of Public Health and Infrastructure directed Members to point 75 within the document which advises that DSD plan to make various changes to alcohol licensing through a Licensing Bill before the end of the current NI Assembly mandate in May 2016.

Councillor S McGuigan referred to recommendation 30 which recommends a system of fixed penalties being introduced for offences including increased powers for Council to deal with unlicensed premises. The Member enquired as to what the proposed fixed penalties would be.

The Director of Public Health and Infrastructure advised that this detail was still to be confirmed.

Councillor McNamee commented that premises still require inspection annually and that licensing fees should reflect the same level of work being carried out.

Proposed by Councillor Cuthbertson  
Seconded by Councillor S McGuigan and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to respond to the consultation on the proposed amendments to Entertainment Licensing legislation, incorporating comments made in relation to recommendation 19 and the need for flexibility regarding finishing times for alcohol/entertainment licences

Councillor Kearney enquired if the small premises referred to under recommendation 8 which it is proposed will no longer require an entertainment licence will also now be exempt from requiring a fire certificate.

The Director of Public Health and Infrastructure advised that Council will have no responsibility for ensuring a fire certificate is in place.

Councillor McNamee referred to PSNI penalty points system for licensed establishments and enquired if this system was in place yet.

The Director of Public Health and Infrastructure advised that he believed there was a process in place but agreed to investigate and report back to the committee

### **E93/15      Licensing of Cinemas – Policy for Film Exhibition Licences**

The Lead Building Control Officer presented the previously circulated Mid Ulster District Council policy for Film Exhibition Licensing in accordance with The Cinema (Northern Ireland) Order 1991.

Proposed by Councillor Gillespie  
Seconded by Councillor McGinley and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to agree the draft policy for Film Exhibition Licences as outlined in report

## **E94/15      Public Analyst Appointment**

The Head of Environmental Health presented the previously circulated paper seeking approval on the appointment of Public Analyst to act for Mid Ulster District Council.

Proposed by Councillor McNamee  
Seconded by Councillor Kearney and

**Resolved**      That it be recommended to Council that the undernoted persons employed by Minton, Treharne and Davies Limited and Worcestershire Scientific Services be appointed as Public Analysts to Mid Ulster District Council under Article 27 (1) of the Food Safety (NI) Order 1991 under the terms of the original contract - Appointed Public Analysts - Susanne Brookes, Paul William Hancock, Alastair David Low, Rachael Ann New and John Antony Robinson

## **E95/15      Test Purchasing**

The Head of Environmental Health presented the previously circulated report seeking approval for test purchasing to be carried out throughout the District with regard to the selling of age restricted products such as tobacco/tobacco products and butane gas lighter fill.

Councillor McGinley sought clarification on how the programme of test purchasing would operate.

The Head of Environmental Health advised that prior to any test purchasing exercises being carried out, letters would be issued to remind all retailers of legislation and provide advice and guidance. Retailers would also be advised that an exercise to establish compliance would be held within the following three months. At the visit a person aged under 18 (who is usually the child of an environmental health officer) will try to purchase such age restricted products, the Head of Environmental Health advised that the person aged under 18 would be fully briefed prior to the visit and would be accompanied by two environmental health officers at all times during the visit.

Councillor Cuddy declared an interest in this item but did not leave the room.

Proposed by Councillor Burton  
Seconded by Councillor Kearney and

**Resolved**      That it be recommended to Council to proceed with a programme of test purchasing for age restricted products such as tobacco and butane gas lighter refill

## **E96/15      Food Business Approval**

The Head of Environmental Health presented the previously circulated paper seeking full approval of a food business trading as Allingham Transport Limited under the requirements of Regulation EC No 853/2004.



Proposed by Councillor Gillespie  
Seconded by Councillor McGinley and

**Resolved** That it be recommend to Council that full approval be granted to Allingham Transport Limited, 6 Grange Road, Cookstown with the approval number UK ZT 021 EC.

#### **E97/15 Local Air Quality Grant Application**

The Head of Environmental Health presented previously circulated paper advising Members of the change and reduction in funding to Councils from the DoE for local air quality work. Grant applications are required to be completed and forwarded to DoE in a competitive process.

Proposed by Councillor Burton  
Seconded by Councillor S McGuigan and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to support the application made for Air Quality Management Work

Councillor B McGuigan commented on the further cutback to funding of another Council function.

Councillor McGinley commented that Members are almost becoming accustomed to hearing funding is being reduced

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to write to DoE expressing concern at further cutback to funding on what is a statutory duty for Council.

#### **Matters for Information**

#### **E98/15 Coalisland and Dungannon (Drumcoo) Recycling Centres**

The Head of Environmental Services presented the previously circulated update on the closure, refurbishment and reopening of Recycling Centres in Coalisland and Dungannon (Drumcoo). Members were advised that work at the Coalisland site was complete and that contractor commenced work at Drumcoo on Monday 8 June.

Councillor Cuddy advised that he had used the recently reopened Coalisland Recycling Centre and raised concern at the standard of finish at the site.

The Head of Environmental Services advised that this matter would be looked at.

Councillor Cuddy also commented on the predicted high usage of Coalisland Recycling Centre during closure of Drumcoo site and the need for alternative sites to be utilised if it is found that the Coalisland centre is not coping with the added pressure.

## **E99/15      Property Maintenance Asset Inspections**

The Head of Property Services presented the previously circulated report on the programme of inspections of key property maintenance assets, namely bus shelters, roadside signage and off street car parks.

Councillor Burton referred to the need for regular inspections of bus shelters and signage and emptying of bins at tourist sites, particularly during the summer season.

In reference to the emptying of bins at amenities, the Head of Property Services advised that this would be undertaken through the Parks Service.

Councillor Burton also spoke of the importance of life saving buoys at certain amenities and the need to regularly monitor that they are always in place.

## **E100/15      Building Control Workload Analysis**

The Lead Building Control Officer presented the previously circulated report to Members on the workload analysis for Building Control across Mid Ulster District Council.

Members noted the content of the report.

In response to Councillor Cuddy's question the Director of Public Health and Infrastructure confirmed an increase in workload across the District and that two new Building Control Officers will shortly commence employment.

## **Confidential Business**

Proposed by Councillor McNamee  
Seconded by Councillor Burton and

**Resolved**      That items E101/15 – E107/15 be taken as confidential business.

## **E106/15      Duration of Meeting**

The meeting was called for 7.00 pm and ended at 9.10 pm.

CHAIR \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

**E**

**Minutes of Meeting of the Development Committee of Mid Ulster District Council held on Thursday 11 June 2015 in the Council Offices, Burn Road, Cookstown**

**Members Present**

Councillor Burton, Chair

Councillors Clarke, Dillon, Forde, McEldowney, McNamee, Molloy, Monteith (7.06pm), C O'Neill, T Quinn, G Shiels and J Shiels

**Officers in Attendance**

Ms Campbell, Director of Culture and Leisure  
Mr McCreesh, Director of Business and Communities  
Mr Browne, Head of Tourism  
Mr Glavin, Head of Leisure  
Mr Hill, Head of Parks  
Ms Linney, Head of Community Services  
Mr McCance, Head of Arts & Culture  
Ms McKeown, Head of Economic Development  
Mrs Forde, Member Support Officer

**Agenda Item 3: Cookstown & District Women's Group**

Mary Hogg, Jean Donaghy and Trevor Benson

**Agenda Item 4: Out & About Community Transport**

Ashley Keane & Gillian Atkinson

The meeting commenced at 7pm

**D99/15 Apologies**

Councillors Ellatar and Wilson

**D100/15 Declaration of Interests**

The Chair, Councillor Burton reminded members of their responsibility with regard to declarations of interest.

Councillor Burton, McNamee and G Shiels declared an interest in Out and About Community Transport (D102/15).

**D101/15 Cookstown and District Women's Group**

The Chair Councillor Burton welcomed Ms Mary Hogg to the meeting. Ms Hogg delivered a presentation on the Cookstown and District Women's Group making reference to the undernoted:

*Councillor Monteith entered the meeting at 7.06pm*

- Mission statement;
- Aims highlighting that the centre wasn't merely a women's centre but had a strong family ethos;
- Board, Advisors, Staff, tutors and volunteers;
- Highlighted strength and commitment of 59 volunteers who worked 5284 hours in previous year;
- Financial output of £180k per year
- Secured four years of big lottery funding of which two are remaining;
- Creche provided at the centre;
- Outlined portfolio of programmes and outreach links with smaller rural centres eg Loup, Lissan, Ballyronan and TIPSA;
- Cookstown Street Angels Programme;
- Young Offenders Programme;
- New Hope Charity Shop which financially supports the centre;

*Councillor Reid entered the meeting at 7.15pm*

Concluding the presentation Ms Hogg highlighted the financial difficulties the Centre was experiencing due to cuts in funding and how they were continually seeking meetings with the Minister for Department of Social Development but being refused. Ms Hogg advised that due to the criteria of the fund when first established in 2006 that centres in neighbouring towns had access funding of some £80k but they had not. Emphasising that the situation was reaching a critical point in that the centre could close within a three month period, Ms Hogg highlighted the closure would mean the loss of Positive Steps Women's Centre, volunteering opportunities, essential skill and life skills training places, placement for offenders, street angels programme and two years of big lottery funding.

The Chair, Councillor Burton thanked Ms Hogg for the presentation and sought Members questions.

Councillor G Shiels stated that the centre carries out good work and he was saddened that it may close and although it would be of no comfort, many organisations were facing similar circumstances.

Ms Hogg advised that the two years of remaining lottery funding provided 60% of costs so the Centre only required 40% funding and that DSD advice to date had been to search grant tracker online. Ms Hogg further stated that The Centre was ongoing in their quest for funding but the real issue was that they were not able to apply for DSD funding because they were classified as a 'group' and not a 'centre'.

In response to Councillor Dillon's question the Director of Business and Communities stated that the fund is currently administered by DSD and the criteria had been set out in 2006 at which time DSD had been emphatic that it would not be changed. Advising that the organisations within the district which received funding from it were First Steps Women's Group, Dungannon and Magherafelt Women's Group the

Director advised that responsibility for this funding would transfer to council in 2016 and it would then be the decision of the Council as to how it was distributed.

Councillor Dillon stated that by 2016 the Cookstown & District Women's Group could have faced closure and thus it would be too late even if Council did change the criteria.

Ms Hogg advised that the Board were holding out hope and that even small allocations of funding would keep them going until March, but without Early Years funding the crèche would close and that the next few weeks were crucial.

Councillor Reid queried if, in 2016 when the funding came to Council for distribution, the money was divided across the three centres would they still be viable. He stated that it would be a shame if the Cookstown Centre closed and queried if any funding identified within Council could provide a temporary solution.

Ms Hogg advised that the Dungannon and Magherafelt Centres did a tremendous work and that all three had a good relationship with each other but the current difficulty was in how DSD distributed the funding.

The Chair, Councillor Burton asked if it was possible for Council to seek a meeting with the Minister or a Senior Official to establish a way forward and stated that the group itself were making every effort maintain their sustainability.

Ms Hogg stated that the Board was looking at reducing its hours of work and exploring all avenues for funding to keep afloat and that she understood when distribution of funding came to Council there may well be more organisation's seeking it but what they sought most was a fair distribution.

The Director of Business and Communities stated that Council would seek a meeting with the Department and commence working with the Centre to see how they could be assisted in the short term. Emphasising that central government funding was retracting daily the Director stated that more and more groups were suffering, with the hurt felt most within community groups, and that even when the resource are transferred to Council they may be less than what they currently are.

Councillor Reid stated that action needed to be taken as soon as possible due to the summer recess and the short life span which remained for the centre if 'gap funding' was not found.

*Ms Hogg, Ms Donaghy and Mr Benson left the meeting at 7.35pm.*

Resolved      That it be recommended to Council that

- (i) Council seek a meeting with DSD regarding funding issues concerning Cookstown & District Women's Group; and
- (ii) Council liaise with Cookstown & District Women's Group to identify possible solutions to financial crisis.

## **D102/15      Out and About Community Transport**

The Chair, Councillor Burton welcomed Ms Ashley Keane to the meeting. Ms Keane delivered a presentation on Out and About Community Transport making reference to the undernoted:

- Organisation formed in 1999 and provides individuals and groups with affordable, accessible transport;
- Now have 6 drivers and 7 vehicles, 14 volunteer drivers and secure parking;
- DRD is core funder for Dial a Lift Scheme;
- Members of Out & About can avail of half fare travel with Smart Pass/Senior Citizen Smart Pass or Half Fare Disability pass within Assisted Rural Transport Scheme provided by DARD;
- Social Car Scheme with volunteer providers only receiving reimbursement for mileage;
- Group hire available with or without driver;
- Working relationship with Cookstown, Dungannon and Magherafelt (CDM) Community Transport;
- Outlined statistics emphasising high usage.

Ms Keane advised that the Rural Transport Fund had been reduced by 33% for the incoming year and they together with CDM had sustained cuts in funding between 25% and 40%, a total of £148k across the district. The initial impact of this would mean potentially 15,000 less 'Dial a Lift' trips. Ms Keane advised that the organisation had reached the stage that it was as lean as it could be and that passenger fares had to be increased. She added that a reduction in services would be the next step due to further budget cuts. Continuing Ms Keane said that she was aware that many organisations were facing difficult times but their members were particularly vulnerable, especially as Translink would also be cutting services. She added that the overall impact would have a ripple effect reflected in for example missed hospital appointments, as many had no other means of transport.

Highlighting that Out and About, together with other community transport networks, throughout Northern Ireland were lobbying MLAs, MPs and the DARD committee. Ms Keane requested the Committee to take urgent action against the cuts.

The Chair, Councillor Burton thanked Ms Keane for the presentation and sought Members questions.

In response to Councillor Dillon's question in relation to funding Ms Keane advised that Smart passes were funded through DARD and that the organisation was reimbursed for transporting Smart card holders. Ms Keane also stated that there was alternative funding in the pipeline but this had not been clarified. She said that Out and About had met with DARD but their funding was for capital projects not for delivery of core services.

Councillor Dillon suggested that Council have a conversation with the DARD Minister to ascertain if help could be made available for rural transport, referring to another transport provider who had increased membership from £5 to £2 per year.

Ms Keane advised that Out and About pricing criteria was somewhat different stating that the annual membership fee was free for smart pass holders and paying members paid £7.50 per trip with the annual membership fee being £12. It was noted that most users were Smart pass or half fare disability pass holders.

Stating that there were differing opinions in relation to welfare reform Councillor Dillon stated that users of the service would be amongst the worst hit and that a balanced way forward needed to be established.

Ms Keane advised that Out and About did not 'means test' but often people did not have anyone at all to bring them places.

In response to a question from the Chair, Councillor Burton Ms Keane clarified that the service did have boundaries and often if they could not take users to their venue, in for example Antrim Hospital, they could take them to the bus station but people were spending nearly a day on a bus for what would be a 40 minute journey. Ms Keane also advised that hospital appointment times were now occurring outside service hours such as Saturdays and Sundays with often cancer patients going for treatment having to travel via a public bus service

Councillor McNamee stated that the DRD Minister had previously indicated that he would apply for more funding and asked if Ms Keane had clarity on the outcome of this. Ms Keane said that there was no clarity on funding as yet but the question remained what would happen if it was not made available.

The Director for Business and Communities advised that with the suggestion to meet with the DARD Minister discussion could also be included with regard to the eligibility of rural transport.

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council that a meeting be sought with Minister for DARD in relation to Rural Transport

*Ms Keane and Ms Atkinson left the meeting at 7.57pm.*

**D103/15      Receive and confirm minutes of the Development Committee meeting held on Thursday 14 May 2015**

Proposed by Councillor J Shiels  
Seconded by Councillor McNamee and

**Resolved** That the minutes of the meeting of the Development Committee held on Thursday 14 May 2015 (items D73/15 to D95/15 & D98/15), were considered and signed as accurate and correct.

The Chair, Councillor Burton made reference to the events schedule received by Members and stated that in the former Dungannon Council a weekly schedule was issued each week advising of all Council organised meetings for the incoming week. The Chair, emphasising that it could only operate successfully if all Officers liaised with Democratic Services when scheduling dates stated that it had been a useful tool and recommended that it be introduced.



**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council that Democratic Services issue a weekly schedule for Council organised meetings.

### **Matters for Decision**

#### **D104/15 Outdoor Recreation NI request for funding for the continuation of the MountainBikeNI consortium**

The Head of Leisure drew Members attention to the report on a request from Outdoor Recreation NI for funding for the continuation of the MountainBikeNI website and the employment of the Mountain Bike Marketing Officer.

*Councillor G Shields left the meeting at 8pm*

Outlining the costs for 2015/16 the Head of Leisure stated that the cost to Mid Ulster Council for Davagh National Trail and Blessingbourne Regional Trail would be £16,666. He also detailed that the Consortium had the opportunity of drawing down sponsorship from Chain Reaction Cycles of £15k. This would also bring an additional bonus of advertising space bought with big discounts achievable from a multimillion pound business. In relation to the advertising campaigns the Head of Leisure detailed that the cost would be £7,300 in total for an autumn, spring campaign together with a volunteer ranger scheme but emphasised that Council should only participate in those schemes where officers deemed it would be beneficial and value for money.

The Head of Leisure recommended that Council contribute to the consortium and participate in those advertising campaigns deemed to be value for money.

Councillor Clarke stated that he was familiar with Davagh Forest and that there was merit in being part of the consortium but stated Council should always be wary of replication, whereas similar trails in Down were not direct competition trails in neighbouring areas would be.

*Councillor G Shields returned at 8.04pm*

Proposed by Councillor Clarke  
Seconded by Councillor McNamee and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to the Council that

- (i) Mid Ulster District Council contribute £16,666 to the MountainBikeNI consortium, towards the cost of employing a Mountain Bike Marketing Officer for one year only and that the workings of the consortium be reviewed for the next year. This is subject to all consortium partners agreeing to provide funding at the levels outlined in the report and if not a further report be brought to committee;
- (ii) Mid Ulster District Council agree to continue with the advertising campaigns and volunteer scheme at a cost of £7300 over

2015/16 subject to Officers being satisfied with the value of each campaign.

In response to Councillor Reid's question with regard to the cost of the advertising campaign, the Head of Leisure stated that the buying power of the consortium would be stronger than individual Councils and therefore prove more cost effective but emphasised that if Officers felt the advertising campaign was not value for money Council had the opportunity to opt out.

### **D105/15      Update on Visitor Signage**

The Head of Tourism drew Members attention to the report outlining changes to the Tourism Brown Sign Policy and sought approval for Dungannon Town Visitor signage to progress the upgrade of directional signage on arterial routes to Dungannon town for Hill of The O'Neill and Dungannon Park visitor amenity locations.

The Head of Tourism advised that the policy had been agreed between Transport NI, the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment and Tourism NI stating that it sought to reinforce the roles involved when providing tourist signs on the public road network. He further advised that theatres, arts centre, gardens, garden centres, aires de service, motorhome hire companies and activity tourism centres were included within Tourism NI funding products and their quality graded. He stated that workshops would be held for those private sector tourism businesses to progress brown signage requirements.

Drawing attention to the quotation of costs received from DRD TransportNI for signage regarding Hill of The O'Neill which was £2811.25 the Head of Tourism recommended that

- (i) The implementation of upgraded visitor signage for town centre visitor/parks amenities in Dungannon be progressed at a cost of £2811.25 plus VAT;
- (ii) The tourism sector be notified of changes made to the new tourism brown sign policy and applications be invited from same;
- (iii) A tourism brown sign application for the Seamus Heaney Centre, Bellaghy be investigated and prepared.

Councillor Dillon raised the need for a directional sign at Council Offices in Magherafelt stating that the only sign at the turn off was for Magherafelt Advice Services.

Proposed by Councillor Dillon  
Seconded by Councillor Monteith and

Resolved      That it be recommended to the Council that

- (i) The implementation of upgraded visitor signage for town centre visitor/parks amenities in Dungannon be progressed at a cost of £2811.25 plus VAT;

- (ii) The tourism sector be notified of changes made to the new tourism brown sign policy and applications be invited from same;
- (iii) A tourism brown sign application for the Seamus Heaney Centre, Bellaghy be investigated and prepared.

## **D106/15 Rural Development Programme Update**

The Director of Business and Communities drew attention to the report on the Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme 2014-2020 advising that it was to update members on the LAG formation process, the status of the programme and to provide details of the available funding opportunities associated with same.

Outlining the key issues, the Director of Business and Communities advised that the Department had issued for comment a draft Animation Service Level Agreement (SLA) to all Councils which will provide funds to cover costs associated with the interim strategy preparation and animation. He stated that the Animation SLA would be between DARD and each Council covering the period 1 May to 30 October 2015 and would have a budget of £50k per Council. He further advised that confirmation had been received from the Department that Council could incur expenditure against the SLA from 1 May 2015, prior to signing date. Advising that there would be a further contract/SLA between the Department and Council to provide administrative support to the LAG for strategy implementation the Director advised that there were no issues with regard to the draft Animation SLA

The Director of Business and Communities recommended that Council approve the SLA for signing advising that Member comments on the draft would be fed back to the DARD prior to the final version being issued and if there was significant change within the scope of the final version it would be brought back to committee.

Proposed by Councillor Reid  
Seconded by Councillor McEldowney and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to the Council that the Service Level Agreement be signed.

The Director of Business and Communities drew attention to the appendices attached to the report advising that the Rural Business Investment Scheme was support for small businesses and was specific to capital support and would be both unique and significant as it would be applicable to businesses up to 50 employees.

Drawing attention to the Draft Rural Tourism Scheme he advised that it would be centrally managed by the Department and there was £10million set aside for tourism projects. Stating that the projects must be strategic and that the timescale for development was June to September 2015 the Director advised that two projects had been identified by officers that should meet with the criteria and sought approval to develop a business plan and appraisal for each at an approximate cost of £6K-£8k per project with the possibility of securing funding in excess of £600k per project. The Director stated that if Council was not successful with either project in this current round of funding there would be an opportunity to reapply to the scheme at a later date or indeed submit the projects to other available sources of funding.

Councillor Clarke commended the Director and Officers for having identified project within the timescales. In response to Councillor Reid's query regarding community representative meetings of the LAG the Director of Business and Communities advised that there was two structures and to date it was only the Board who had met.

Proposed by Councillor Clarke  
Seconded by Councillor T Quinn and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council that permission be granted to the Director of Business and Communities to prepare two projects to business plan/appraisal stage at a cost of £6k to £8k each in readiness to submit funding applications to the Rural Tourism Scheme.

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

## **D107/15      Economic Development Report**

The Director of Business and Communities drew attention to the report regarding the Local Economic Development Report and Action Plan 2015-2020 and Irish Central Border Area Network.

The Director of Business and Communities reminded Members of the consultations which had taken place in preparation of the Economic Development Report and Action Plan 2015-2020 and drew attention to the strategic aims under the undernoted themes:

- Enabling Economic Growth;
- Enabling Employability and skills;
- Enabling Town and Village Regeneration; and
- Enabling Infrastructure and Connectivity.

Emphasising that the plan was a route map and a starting point from which to move forward from he sought approval for the final draft of the plan which would allow Officers to progress and submit applications for funding. He further recommended that the plan be formally launched in the near future.

Proposed by Councillor T Quinn  
Seconded by Councillor Dillon and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to the Council that Mid Ulster Council's Local Economic Development Report and Action Plan 2015-2020 be approved and a formal launch organised in the near future.

Councillor Dillon asked if any consideration had been given to appointing a designated officer tasked with sourcing European Funding stating that it was an area where opportunities may have been missed in the past as there was little expertise available to assist groups in drawing down funding which would ease the pressure

on the Council purse. The Director of Business and Communities advised that a proposal would be presented to the party representatives group.

Councillor Reid asked if there would be a good return on the investment of an officer. In response the Director of Business and Communities stated that programme targets, output and outcomes would be identified and managed and reported back. The Director also advised that ERDF support was based around job creation with a target of one job to be created per £1k of funding received, thus there was pressure to deliver.

### **Matters for Information**

#### **D108/15      Leisure Services Progress**

The Chair, Councillor Burton requested that Members note the Leisure Services Progress report outlined in the Directors report.

Proposed by Councillor Forde  
Seconded by Councillor T Quinn and

**Resolved**      That it be recommended to Council that Members note the Leisure Services Progress report.

#### **D109/15      Parks Service Progress Reports**

The Chair, Councillor Burton requested that Members note the Park Services Progress report outlined in the Directors report.

Proposed by Councillor McNamee  
Seconded by Councillor Clarke and

**Resolved**      That it be recommended to Council that Members note the Leisure Services Progress report.

Councillor Clarke requested that within the audit of activity areas, that the forest which was approximately 20 years old opposite Davagh Forest be incorporated as an activity area.

The Chair, Councillor Burton sought clarification if an overall audit of forests and activity areas was being carried out. The Head of Parks advised that Outdoor Recreation were carrying out an audit in Magherafelt and Cookstown only as Dungannon had been audited in 2013. Advising that the audit should be completed by end of August the Head of Parks advised that there would be public consultation of which they would be notified.

In relation to loughs Councillor Reid stated that he was aware that Council had a responsibility for some, such as the Black Lough, and highlighted ongoing problems and an associated court case in relation to Roughan Lough where there were difficulties over water rights together with health and safety of jetties. He said that he was aware that the Council's Health and Safety Officer had been involved. Councillor Reid asked if they would be incorporated in the audit.

Councillor Monteith stated that he had expected a report to the meeting with regard to the Black Lough.

The Head of Parks advised that with respect Roughan Lough he was aware that there was a legal challenge regarding its use but stated that it was in private ownership. Regarding Black Lough he advised that there was a local conservation group who were not in favour of an overdevelopment of the site and confirmed that Mid Ulster District Council would be responsible for any repairs.

Councillor Monteith stated that he was very supportive of the conservation group but the lough was an asset to the whole community and other groups would like to use the lough also. Stating that community expectation was immense Councillor Monteith expressed disappointment that there was no report at the June meeting and asked that a desktop exercise be carried out and reported to the July meeting.

The Head of Parks asked if Black Lough was being treated as a special case and in response Councillor Monteith stated that the audit was ongoing in Cookstown and Magherafelt and Dungannon's had been completed in 2013 when Black Lough would not have been included.

The Director of Culture and Leisure stated that some initial work could be undertaken such as a preliminary scoping exercise.

**Resolved** That it be recommended to the Council that a preliminary scoping exercise be carried out in relation to Black Lough.

#### **D110/15 Seamus Heaney Project Update**

The Chair, Councillor Burton requested that Members note the Seamus Heaney Project update outlined in the Directors report.

Proposed by Councillor McNamee  
Seconded by Councillor J Shiels and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council that Members note the Seamus Heaney Project Update.

#### **D111/15 Culture and Arts Project Report**

The Chair, Councillor Burton requested that Members note the Culture and Arts Project report outlined in the Directors report.

Proposed by Councillor T Quinn  
Seconded by Councillor Molloy and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council that Members note the Culture and Arts Project Report.

#### **D112/15      Children's Locality Partnership**

The Chair, Councillor Burton requested that Members note the Children's Locality Partnerships update outlined in the Director's report.

Proposed by Councillor McNamee  
Seconded by Councillor Clarke and

**Resolved**      That it be recommended to Council that Members note the Children's Locality Partnership report.

#### **D113/15      Community Development Update (K)**

The Chair, Councillor Burton requested that Members note the Community Development Update report outlined in the Directors report.

Proposed by Councillor Molloy  
Seconded by Councillor Dillon and

**Resolved**      That it be recommended to Council that Members note the Community Development update report.

#### **D114/15      PCSP Update**

The Chair, Councillor Burton requested that Members note the PCSP Update report outlined in the Directors report.

Proposed by Councillor Molloy  
Seconded by Councillor T Quinn and

**Resolved**      That it be recommended to Council that Members note the PCSP Update report.

#### **CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS**

Proposed by Councillor McNamee  
Seconded by Councillor Dillon and

**Resolved**      That items D115/15 – D120/15 be taken as confidential business.

#### **D121/15      Duration of Meeting**

The meeting was called for 7pm and ended at 9.25pm

**CHAIR** \_\_\_\_\_

**DATE** \_\_\_\_\_



**F**

**Minutes of Meeting of Planning Committee (Development Plan and Enforcement) of Mid Ulster District Council held on Tuesday 16 June 2015 in Council Offices, Burn Road, Cookstown**

**Members Present**

Councillor Kearney, Chair

Councillors Bell, Clarke, Cuthbertson, Gildernew, Glasgow, Mallaghan, McAleer, McEldowney, McKinney, McPeake, Reid, Robinson, J Shiels

**Officers in Attendance**

Mr Tohill, Chief Executive  
Dr Boomer, Planning Manager  
Ms Heagney, Senior Planning Officer  
Ms McEvoy, Head of Development Plan and Enforcement  
Miss Thompson, Committee Services/Senior Admin Officer

**Others in Attendance**

Councillor B McGuigan

The meeting commenced at 7.05 pm.

**P66/15 Apologies**

Councillors Bateson and Mullen

**P67/15 Declarations of Interest**

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

**Matters for Decision**

**P68/15 Meeting Schedule for Planning Committee (Development Plan and Enforcement)**

As previously circulated, the Planning Manager presented proposed meeting schedule for Planning Committee to receive Development Plan and Enforcement business.

Councillor Cuthbertson advised that none of the DUP Members would be available to attend the meeting scheduled for Tuesday 21 July and suggested that this meeting be rescheduled to Tuesday 28 July.

Proposed by Councillor Cuthbertson  
Seconded by Councillor J Shiels and

**Resolved** That Planning Committee be held on Tuesday 28 July to discuss development plan and enforcement business.

Councillor Clarke referred to the proposed meeting schedule and that no planning meetings are scheduled for August, the Councillor felt that in order to avoid undue delay in processing planning applications a meeting should be held during this month.

Councillor Mallaghan concurred with Councillor Clarke's comments advising that the public want an accessible planning system.

The Chair, Councillor Kearney suggested that additional planning applications be brought to meeting on 28 July for consideration along with normal business in relation to development plan and enforcement therefore reducing any delay to the processing of an application and eliminating the need for a meeting in August.

Proposed by Councillor Kearney  
Seconded by Councillor Mallaghan and

**Resolved** That additional development management matters be brought to the attention of the Planning Committee meeting being held on Tuesday 28 July along with development plan and enforcement business.

Councillor McKinney suggested that going forward, planning meetings in relation to development management be held in Magherafelt offices while meetings relating to development plan and enforcement be held in Cookstown.

**Resolved** That Planning Development Management meetings are held in Magherafelt offices and Planning Development Plan and Enforcement meetings are held in Cookstown offices.

## **P69/15      Transportation Position Paper**

The Head of Development Plan and Enforcement presented Transportation Position Paper as previously circulated informing Members of the regional planning and roads policy context in relation to transportation and providing information on the strategic road network, various transportation schemes, future transportation initiatives, existing car parking provision and public transport services within the Mid Ulster plan area. It was noted that transport planning will remain a function within the Department for Regional Development.

Councillor Bell referred to the emphasis on improving public transport within the report and felt that more priority needs to be given to rural roads within the District which are falling into greater states of disrepair. The Councillor remarked that the cost of public transport is becoming unaffordable along with accessibility issues in rural areas.

The Planning Manager referred to the poor north/south connection time when travelling through the District and that travel times should not be further detrimentally affected, any provision for public transport, walking or cycling should not be a

substitute for an adequate road network. The Planning Manager also highlighted the importance of the lough shore route within the District and that Council should be pushing TransportNI for improvements to this.

Councillor Clarke commented on the pressure put on 'B' roads around the Sperrins which requires addressing.

Councillor Kearney referred to the need for improved facilities (bus shelters and toilet provision) at Park and Ride sites and additional street lighting to encourage walking to school (Safer Routes to Schools).

Councillor Robinson concurred with Councillor Kearney's comments in relation to improved facilities at Park and Ride sites.

Councillor Bell stated it was important to note the heavy volumes of traffic that bypass towns and use rural roads as an alternative and the need to for Council to lobby on this issue.

Councillor Mallaghan felt that public transport provision in rural areas is not convenient and emphasised the need for Council to be realistic as to what will go forward in the local development plan.

Councillor Reid commented on the lack of adequate washing facilities for lorry drivers outside of Belfast and that consideration should be given to developing park and rides sites for this use.

The Chief Executive referred to the importance of improving connectivity on major roads throughout the District which would help to reduce pressure on rural roads.

The Planning Manager acknowledged the need to prioritise roads while recognising the importance of pedestrian activity and cyclists. The Planning Manager suggested that development plan for Mid Ulster would indicate where priority needs to be given in respect of improving condition of roads and reducing travel times and distance.

Proposed by Councillor Mallaghan  
Seconded by Councillor Cuthbertson and

**Resolved** That subject to the aforementioned comments, Council agree with the content of the Transportation Position Paper.

#### **P70/15      Utilities Position Paper**

Ms Heagney (SPO) presented Utilities Position Paper as previously circulated informing Members on the provision and capacity of public utilities up to 2030 in order to assist judgements on the allocation of housing growth and other development in the new local development plan.

The Planning Manager highlighted that no information was received from NI Water in relation to the capacity of existing Waste Water Treatment Works within the District.

The Planning Manager advised that the information had been requested and would be used to update this paper once provided.

Councillor McPeake referred to electricity supply within Mid Ulster which is quoted as “not being an issue” within the utilities paper. The Councillor advised he was aware of one business in particular which cannot expand due to an inadequate electricity supply felt this issue needs to be addressed for all businesses which may be in a similar situation.

Councillor Reid referred to a lack of sewerage capacity across the District which is putting a constraint on housing development in certain areas.

A number of Members referred to the inadequate broadband and mobile communication coverage in some areas of the District and the need for Council to lobby on this issue as it was felt that lack of provision means it is impossible for some businesses to trade in a competitive way in Mid Ulster.

Speaking in relation to wind turbines, Councillor Mallaghan was pleased to note that the report placed significance on the Sperrins as an Area of Outstanding National Beauty and recognises the need for this area to be preserved

The Planning Manager agreed that the key issues for businesses in the Mid Ulster area include having an adequate electricity supply and modes of communication and referred to the resumed discussions in relation to the north/south interconnector and increasing the capacity of the 110kV network. The Planning Manager also recognised the lack of sewerage capacity in the District and the effect this has on development.

The Planning Manager agreed with the need to consider sensitive landscapes in Mid Ulster and highlighted to Members that local authorities in the Republic of Ireland and Wales had introduced arbitrary distances which are used when considering planning applications in relation to wind turbines. The Planning Manager suggested that Council develop its own guidance in relation to wind turbine applications.

Members were agreed that guidance in relation to this issue would be beneficial and the Chair, Councillor Kearney suggested the setting up of a sub-committee to look at this matter.

The Planning Manager recommended that a working group be set up involving Members and Officers of the Council to discuss preparation of guidance with regard to wind turbine applications.

Proposed by Councillor McPeake  
Seconded by Councillor Mallaghan and

- Resolved**
1. That subject to the aforementioned comments, Council agree with the content of the Utilities Position Paper.
  2. That working group be set up to discuss preparation of guidance for wind turbine applications.

**P71/15      Open Space, Recreation and Leisure Position Paper**  
**P72/15      Tourism Position Paper**

**Resolved**      That the papers on Open Space, Recreation and Leisure and Tourism be debated collectively during a workshop planned for September.

**P73/15      Duration of Meeting**

The meeting was called for 7.00pm and ended at 8.58 pm.

Chair \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**G**

**Subject** Conferences and Seminars

**Reporting Officer** Philip Moffett, Head of Democratic Services

<b>1</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	To provide an update on seminars and conferences received. To seek approval for attendance of members and officers, the payment of attendance fees and associated costs, as incurred.

<b>2</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	The following conference/seminar sessions are presented for consideration on member and/ or officer representation from Mid Ulster Council.
2.1	<b>Approval for Attendance</b>
2.1.1	<i>EU Funding Event</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Roe Valley Arts &amp; Cultural Centre, Limavady Friday 26 June</li> </ul>
2.1.2	<i>National Association of Councillors: Devolving Power to the Regions</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lytham St Anne's Friday 26 June - Sunday 28 June</li> </ul>
2.1.3	<i>Benedict Kiely Weekend, Omagh's Literary Festival</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strule Arts Centre, Omagh Friday 11 September - Sunday 13 September</li> </ul>
2.1.4	<i>Northern Ireland Planning Conference: Making Planning Work for People</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Baby Grand, Grand Opera House, Belfast Tuesday 29 September 9am -1pm</li> </ul>
2.1.5	<i>The IRRV Northern Ireland Conference 2015</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Malone House, Belfast Thursday 1 October 2015 9.30am – 1pm</li> </ul>
2.2	<b>Retrospective Approval for Attendance</b>
2.2.1	<i>Institute of Historic Building Conservation, Northern Ireland Branch Event</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clifton House, Belfast Thursday 14 May 2015</li> </ul>



2.2.2	<i>Countdown to Zero: The benefits of Zero Waste &amp; Moving towards it, Now!</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>City Hotel, Derry</li> <li>Monday 22 June</li> </ul>
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<b>3</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
3.1	N/A

<b>4</b>	<b>Resources</b>
4.1	<b><u>Financial</u></b>
4.1.1	<i>EU Funding Event</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No fee</li> </ul>
4.1.2	<i>National Association of Councillors: Devolving Power to the Regions</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>£350 per person</li> </ul>
4.1.3	<i>Benedict Kiely Weekend, Omagh's Literary Festival</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>£85 per person</li> </ul>
4.1.4	<i>Northern Ireland Planning Conference: Making Planning Work for People</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>£180 per person</li> </ul>
4.1.5	<i>The IRRV Northern Ireland Conference 2015</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>£80 per person</li> </ul>
4.1.6	<i>Institute of Historic Building Conservation, Northern Ireland Branch Event</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>£10 per person</li> </ul>
4.1.7	<i>Countdown to Zero: The benefits of Zero Waste &amp; Moving towards it, Now!</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No Fee</li> </ul>
4.2	<b><u>Human</u></b> - N/A
4.3	<b><u>Basis for Professional/ Consultancy Support</u></b> - N/A
4.4	<b><u>Other</u></b> – N/A

<b>5</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
5.1	Costs associated will be against 2015-16 Conference & Seminar allocations.

<b>6</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
6.1	Approval for attendance and representation at the conferences, where requested.

<b>7</b>	<b>List of Documents Attached</b>
7.1	Appendix A EU Funding Event Appendix B National Association of Councillors: Appendix C Benedict Kiely Weekend, Omagh's Literary Festival Appendix D N Ireland Planning Conference: Making Planning Work for People Appendix E IRRV Northern Ireland Conference 2015 Appendix F Countdown to Zero

# EU Funding Event

You are cordially invited to attend an EU funding event hosted by Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council and NILGA.

The purpose of the event is two fold:-

- To outline the new EU Structural Funds 2014—2020
- To offer Elected Members and Council officers the opportunity to question and engage with our three MEP'S:
- Martina Anderson MEP
- Diane Dodds MEP
- Jim Nicholson MEP

**Friday, 26th June 2015, 9.30am—11.30am**

Registration, tea/coffee from 9.00am

**Roe Valley Arts & Cultural Centre, Limavady**

**Places are limited so early registration is essential**

To reserve a place please contact Louise Pollock on 028 7034 7045 or email: [louise.pollock@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk](mailto:louise.pollock@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk) before 15th June 2015.

**Causeway Coast and Glens  
Borough Council**





Received

22 MAY 2015

Chief Executive

16/5/2015

## **Devolving Powers to the Regions**

### **The Dalmeny Hotel, Lytham St Anne's 26<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> June 2015**

This Conference is designed to be of great value to both newly elected and more experienced councillors, in all parts of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

We have heard a lot of senior government spokesmen making announcements regarding devolution of powers to the regions over the past few days.

What will this mean for our areas? Is it to be tied in with the election of elected mayors? Some areas targeted by the government have recently rejected elected mayors what will happen if local authorities don't agree? Will they be starved of cash? What will happen to the Northern Powerhouse and other regions?

Scotland are in talks with the UK government on what extra powers they can expect. What will this mean for people living in Scotland?

There are so many unanswered questions.

All of these issues will effect Councils at all levels whether you're a large metropolitan or a small parish council.

This conference will aim to inform delegates what it all means

Time will be set aside for delegates to question the speakers.

I hope you can attend this very important event, if so please return the form overleaf.

Yours Faithfully

*B. Nelson*

#### **Contact**

Office: 0191 378 9947  
Mobile: 07791 574 879

Website: [www.nationalassociationofcouncillors.org](http://www.nationalassociationofcouncillors.org)  
Email: [generalsecretary@nationalassociationofcouncillors.org](mailto:generalsecretary@nationalassociationofcouncillors.org)

Representing local government councillors nationwide

*National Association of Councillors*

General Secretary

*Councillor*  
**Brian Nelson**

Council Offices  
6 Goatbeck Terrace  
Langley Moor  
Durham, DH7 8JJ

**Strule Arts Centre**

**Brendan Hegarty**  
Chief Executive



Fermanagh & Omagh  
District Council  
Comhairle Ceantair  
Fhear Manach agus na hÓmaí

Your Ref

Our Ref

Date

Being dealt with by

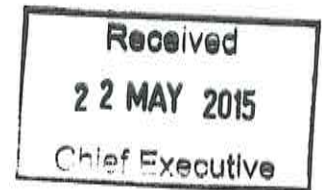
Email

AR/1

20 May 2015

Pauline Clarke

pauline.clarke@fermanaghomagh.com



Mr Anthony Tohill  
Mid Ulster District Council  
Dungannon Office  
Circular Road  
Dungannon BT71 6DT

Dear Mr Tohill

I attach information for the BENEDICT KIELY WEEKEND, OMAGH'S LITERARY FESTIVAL, which will take place in the STRULE ARTS CENTRE, TOWNHALL SQUARE, OMAGH on FRIDAY 11, SATURDAY 12 and SUNDAY 13 SEPTEMBER 2015.

I would be grateful if your Council would consider sending Representatives/Officers to the Weekend and I thank you in advance for doing so.

The cost is a very reasonable £85.00 which does not include accommodation. Sterling cheques are accepted but booking can be made by calling Strule Arts Centre Box Office on 028 8224 7831 or visit [www.struleartscentre.co.uk](http://www.struleartscentre.co.uk) to book online. Special rates are available for a limited number of rooms in the Silverbirch Hotel. The Tourist Information Office can help with arranging accommodation in other venues if required. Visit [www.facebook.com/KielyFestivalOmagh](http://www.facebook.com/KielyFestivalOmagh) or [www.struleartscentre.co.uk](http://www.struleartscentre.co.uk) for more updates.

I hope that your Council will agree to send Representatives/officers for the Weekend and I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

Pauline Clarke  
Arts and Cultural Officer

Enc



THE 14<sup>th</sup>  
BENEDICT KIELY WEEKEND  
Omagh's Literary Festival

**A Raid into Dark Corners**

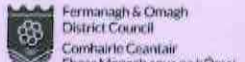
Friday 11 to Sunday 13 September 2015

Contributors include  
**Michael Harding**  
**Mark Graham**  
**Martina Devlin**  
**Sarah Baume**  
**Colette Bryce**  
**Conor McCloskey**

Full Weekend Tickets £85  
or Euro equivalent

Booking:  
Strule Arts Centre Box Office  
028 82247831  
ROI 048 82247831  
[www.struleartscentre.co.uk](http://www.struleartscentre.co.uk)

Updates: [www.facebook.com/  
KielyFestivalOmagh](https://www.facebook.com/KielyFestivalOmagh)



# Northern Ireland planning conference

*Making planning work for people*



Tuesday 29th September  
Baby Grand, Belfast  
[www.agendani.com](http://www.agendani.com)

Sponsored by



# Conference programme

09.00 Chairman's welcome and introduction: **Stewart Beattie, QC**

***The transfer of planning powers: The story so far***

**Gary McGhee**, Head of Planning and Environmental Law

**Carson McDowell**

**MINISTERIAL ADDRESS:**

***Creating a planning system that delivers for everyone***

**Mark H Durkan**, MLA, Minister for the Environment

***Delivering planning services: A local government perspective***

**Phil Williams**, Director of Planning & Place

**Belfast City Council**

***The role of community and stakeholder engagement in planning***

**David Kerr**, Director – Public Affairs, Community & Stakeholder Engagement

**Strategic Planning**

Questions & answers / Panel discussion

11.00 Morning coffee / networking break

11.20 ***Implementing planning policy: A Councillor's experience to date***

**Cllr Robert Logan**, Chair, Planning Committee

**Mid & East Antrim Borough Council**

***Improving the performance of the statutory consultee in the planning process***

**Pat Corker**, Principal Scientific Officer

**Northern Ireland Environment Agency**

***Capturing the economic benefits from Simplified Planning Zones***

**Cllr James C.Swindlehurst**, Commissioner for

Neighbourhoods and Renewals, **Slough Borough Council**

***Developing wind energy: Environmental and planning considerations***

**Anna Lo, MLA**, Chair, Environment Committee

**Northern Ireland Assembly** *(invited)*

Questions & answers / Panel discussion

13.00 Conference lunch / networking break

“ This is an exciting time for planning and I recognise the challenges that the new reformed two-tier planning system will present to key stakeholders. When set alongside the development of a single Strategic Planning Policy Statement I am redefining the planning landscape so that the system delivers for all. My vision is for a better environment and a stronger economy and these proposals will help achieve that. ”

**Mark H.Durkan, MLA, Minister for the Environment, May 2014**







## **The IRRV Northern Ireland Conference 2015**

A major one day  
Conference from the  
Institute of Revenues,  
Rating & Valuation

Kindly sponsored by :

Valid for IRRV CPD Points



**Malone House, Belfast**  
**Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2015**  
**(please note revised date and venue)**



## **The IRRV Northern Ireland Conference 2015**

IRRV in Northern Ireland is delighted to announce this major Conference, taking place at Malone House, Belfast, on the revised date of Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2015. The conference is kindly sponsored by Anderson Anderson & Brown LLP.

This one day conference will discuss the impacts of local government reform and the issues facing Northern Ireland's new local authorities, rates reform and the revaluation, managing the Rate Product and the challenges facing Land and Property Services over the next five years.

We are delighted to advise that Arlene Foster MLA, Minister for Finance & Personnel, has been accepted our invitation to give the Ministerial Address to conference.

Conference sessions include :

- ❖ Ministerial Address : Arlene Foster MLA, Minister of Finance & Personnel (confirmed)
- ❖ The key issues facing local government in Northern Ireland : Richard Harbord, Immediate Past President, Institute of Revenues, Rating and Valuation (confirmed)
- ❖ Review of Business Rates : Brian McClure, Rating Policy Division, Department of Finance and Personnel (confirmed)
- ❖ Is Land Tax a Real Option for Reform? : David Magor OBE, Chief Executive, Institute of Revenues, Rating & Valuation (confirmed)
- ❖ Rate reform and Revaluation 2015 : Panel Session

- ❖ The reorganisation challenges facing the new Councils : Theresa Donaldson, Chief Executive, Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council (confirmed)
- ❖ 2020 Vision - the strategic road map for LPS : Colum Boyle, Chief Executive, Land & Property Services (confirmed)
- ❖ Managing the Rate Product : Mark McBride, Head of Finance and Performance, Belfast City Council (confirmed)
- ❖ “See, Hear and Speak Up” : Sean McAuley, Anderson Anderson and Brown LLP (confirmed)

The conference will be chaired by Kevin Stewart, IRRV President and will commence at 10am on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> October (registration from 9.30am) and will end around 4pm.

## The Conference Organisers:



Institute of Revenues Rating & Valuation : With over 5,000 members, the IRRV is the largest professional institution operating in the field of revenues, benefits and valuation. The IRRV has a growing presence in Northern Ireland - the Institute's main aim is to support its members' professional and personal development and the sharing of best practice.

This is a major event in the conference calendar and an excellent opportunity for all involved with or with an interest in rating, revaluation and local government and related matters in Northern Ireland to hear about the key issues.

It is also extremely good value for money, with conference fees starting at less than £80 + VAT. This includes refreshments, lunch and conference materials. **Every fourth booking from the same organisation comes entirely free of charge.**

**HOW TO BOOK :** To encourage organisations to send a number of staff, every fourth full day delegate from the same organisation comes entirely free of charge. As places are limited, early booking is recommended. Please either fax the booking form to 01382 456029 or e-mail [northern.ireland@irrv.org.uk](mailto:northern.ireland@irrv.org.uk). The IRRV regrets that, under normal circumstances, delegate fees cannot be refunded. However, delegate substitutions may be made at no cost at any time prior to the Conference, subject to these being notified to the Institute.



A conference on  
**The benefits of Zero Waste &  
moving towards it NOW!**

**Monday 22nd June 2015, City Hotel, Derry**

The Zero Waste revolution is transforming the 'waste' industry across Europe. It is the only sustainable response to climate change and the increasing global demand for resources.

The speakers at this conference include experts and practitioners driving this change in Europe, as well as local innovators leading the way to a circular economy through Zero Waste.

A Zero Waste approach understands 'waste' as resources, wasted. It delivers a cleaner environment, creating more business and job opportunities. The circular economy involves all of us: manufacturers, retailers, consumers, waste managers and local government.

This conference will set the region on the path to become a model for Zero Waste best practice, delivering a viable and sustainable economy and responding to European directives.

Guarantee your place by registering here [ZeroWasteNW.org/countdownreg](http://ZeroWasteNW.org/countdownreg)

## The conference will be opened

By Mark H Durkan Minister for the Environment

*"Zero Waste North West is to be commended in rising to the challenge. This conference brings together delegates with a wide range of experience and ideas to promote the circular economy and a Zero Waste society."*

## CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE

### Why Zero Waste

By Joan Marc Simon

Joan Marc Simon is the Director of Zero Waste Europe. He is an economist by training and an expert in EU waste legislation and European policy-making. He specialises in the field of resource and waste management. He calls on us to *"redesign the economy phasing-out waste so that all the goods are designed to be repaired, reused, recycled or composted at the end of their life."*

### How Zero Waste

By Enzo Favoino

Enzo Favoino chairs the Scientific Committee of Zero Waste Europe. As a researcher based at Scuola Agraria del Parco di Monza he has published influential research over 25 years on waste prevention, separation and recycling, specialising in organic waste and composting. Enzo was one of the founders of the European Compost Network.

### Creating An Intelligent Economy: How the North West Can Lead The Way By Dr Peter Doran

Dr Peter Doran lectures in Environmental Planning and Sustainable Development at the School of Law, Queens University Belfast. He led the Carnegie UK Trust-QUB initiative on wellbeing in Northern Ireland. He puts Zero Waste in a global economic context presenting the circular economy, with greener products and closed resource loops, as the sustainable response to population growth, urbanization and climate change.

### Recycling, A Blueprint For Northern Ireland By Eric Randall

Eric Randall, Director of Bryson Recycling says *"The generation of quality materials is essential in any recycling collection system. Jobs created from reprocessing the materials are significant to the local economy"*. Bryson worked on designing the new recycling 'wheelie box' containers and 'kerbsort' vehicles. The Bryson model has been adopted by Antrim and Newtownabbey Councils and by the Welsh Government.

**Guarantee your place by registering here**

**[ZeroWasteNW.org/countdownreg](https://ZeroWasteNW.org/countdownreg)**

**For more information visit [ZeroWasteNW.org/countdown](https://ZeroWasteNW.org/countdown)  
or contact the organisers at [countdown@ZeroWasteNW.org](mailto:countdown@ZeroWasteNW.org)**

This conference was organised by Zero Waste North West and was made possible through funding from CFNI (The Community Foundation for Northern Ireland) through their Community Planning Support Programme 2015.

DESIGN x Missprint T: 02871 415163 M: 0792 7898 726 E: [info@missprintdesign.co.uk](mailto:info@missprintdesign.co.uk)



**H**

<b>Report to</b>	<b>Mid Ulster District Council</b>
<b>Subject</b>	<b>Street Naming – New Housing Development</b>
<b>Date</b>	<b>Thursday 25 June 2015</b>
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	<b>M Kelso</b>
<b>Contact Officer</b>	

1	Purpose of Report
1.1	To provide a Street Name for a new Housing Development consisting of 75 dwellings at a site North of 42 Tobermore Road , Magherafelt .

2	Background
2.1	<p>In accordance with The Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions )( NI) Order 1995 – Article 11 , Council is required to approve Street Naming and Numbering of buildings erected on new developments .</p> <p>A Policy for Street Naming and Property Numbering has been adopted by Council for this purpose .</p>

3	Key Issues
3.1	<p>A request to approve a street name for the new Housing Development has been received from DMD Development, 116 Deerpark Road, Toomebridge. for the proposed residential development of 75 No. dwellings at the approved site North of 42 Tobermore Road , Magherafelt .</p> <p>After consideration of a number of options , the developer has proposed the following name for the new development :</p> <p>“The Oaks” Tobermore Road, Magherafelt</p> <p>The proposed name for the New Development is in keeping with the Council Policy for Street Naming and Numbering and reflects the locality in which it is proposed .</p>

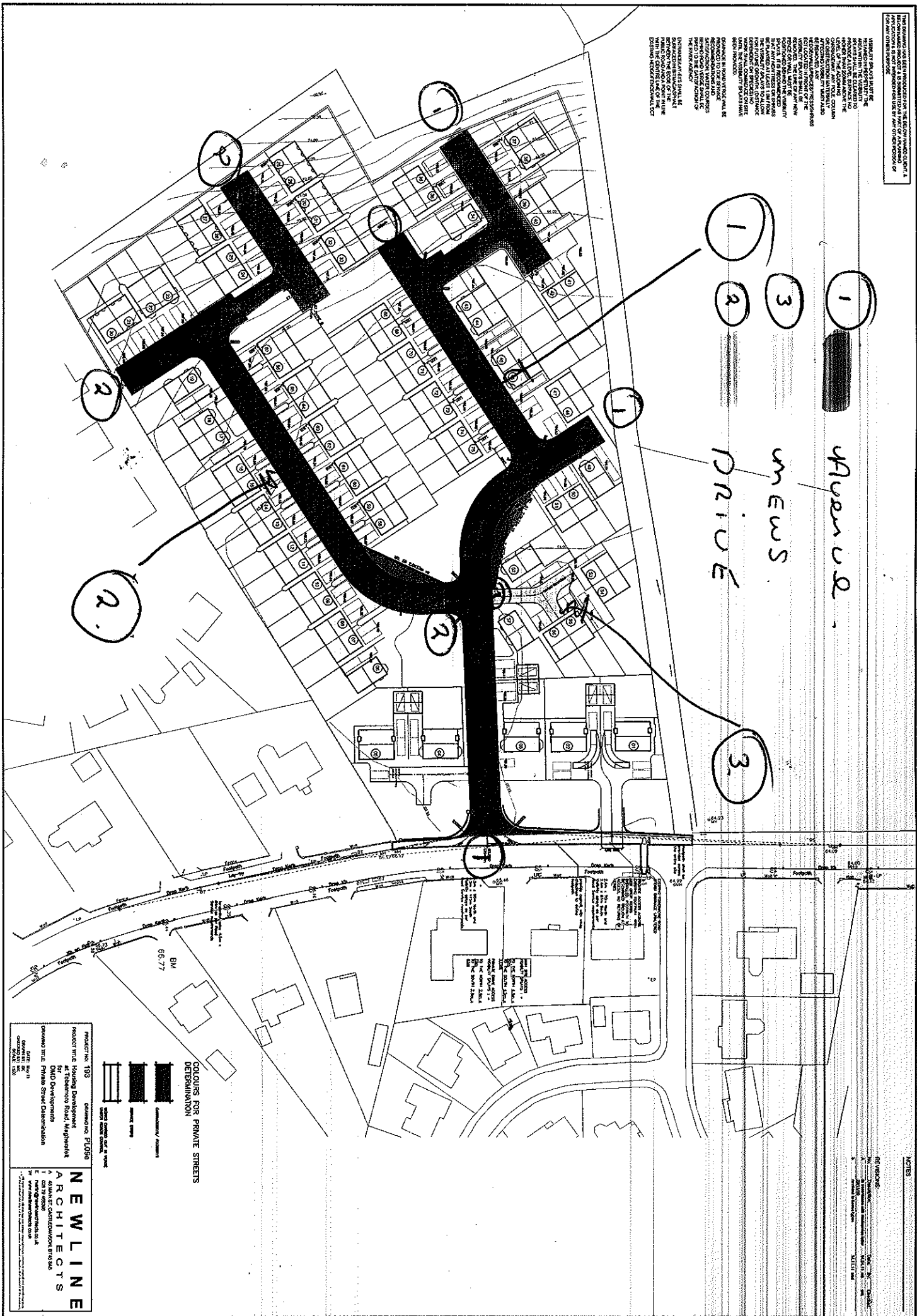
<b>4</b>	<b>Resources</b>
4.1	<b><u>Financial</u></b>  None
4.2	<b><u>Basis for Professional/ Consultancy Support</u></b>  None
4.3	<b><u>Other</u></b>  None

<b>5</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
5.1	None

<b>6</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
6.1	It is recommended that Members approve the Name for the New Development as “The Oaks”, Tobermore Road, Magherafelt.

<b>7</b>	<b>List of Documents Attached</b>
7.1	Appendix 1 – Layout and Plan of Development Site



[illegible]

## NOTES

**REVIEWS:**  
No. \_\_\_\_\_

No.	Description	Date	By	Cash
✓ 1007	In accordance with resolution signed	6-28-51	W.H.	
✓ 1008	Received by laundry type	3-11-51	W.H.	

COLOURS FOR PRIVATE STREETS  
DETERMINATION

PROJECT NO. 193      DESIGN NO. PL09e

**Project title** Housing Development  
at Tobemora Road, Magherafelt  
for  
DMD Developments

Document Title: Private Street Determination

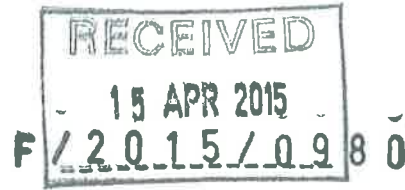
DATE: MAY 13  
DRAWN BY: BK  
CHECKED BY: BK  
SCALE: 1/200

NEW LINE  
ARCHITECTS  
A QUALITY CARE COMPANY OFFICE

26 4000 N. G. Street, Suite 100, Dallas, TX 75241  
 T 800 794 6700  
 E [info@newmanorbooks.co.uk](mailto:info@newmanorbooks.co.uk)  
 W [www.newmanorbooks.co.uk](http://www.newmanorbooks.co.uk)

# Site North of 42 Tobermore Rd Magherafelt

PROJECT NO: 193  
SCALE: 1/2500  
DATE: July 10  
DRAWING NO: MK  
DRAWN BY: MK



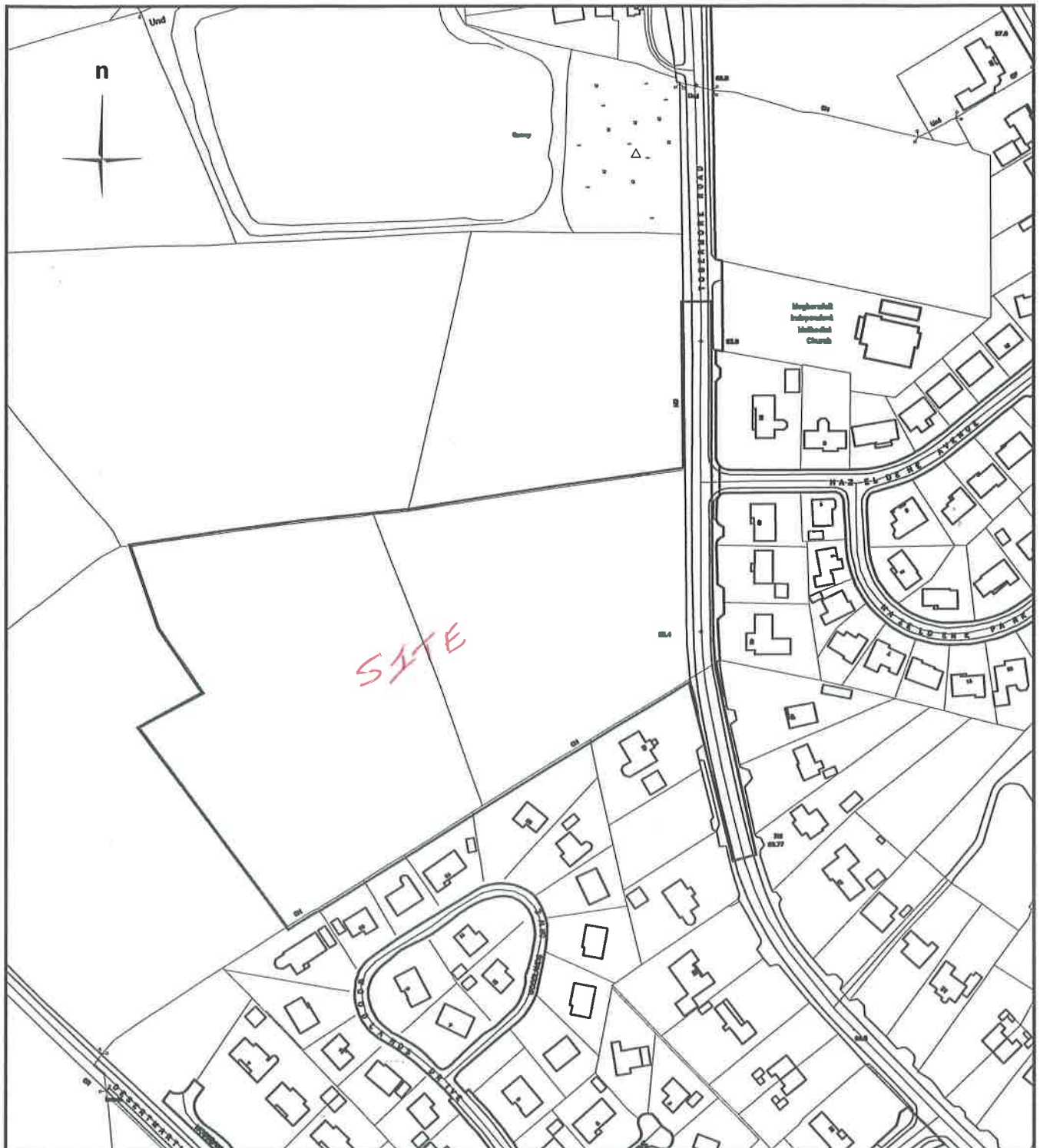
## NEWLINE ARCHITECTS

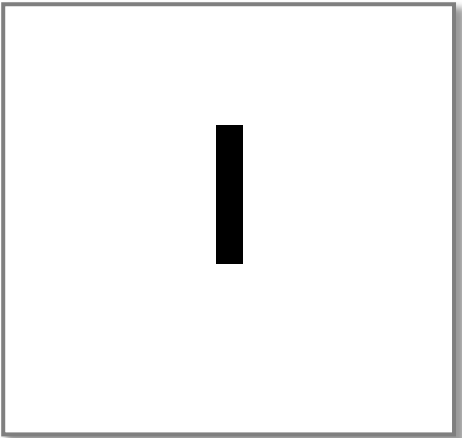
A 48 MAIN STREET, CASTLEDAWSON, BT45 8AB  
T 028 79 488398  
E [martin@newlinearchitects.co.uk](mailto:martin@newlinearchitects.co.uk)  
W [www.newlinearchitects.co.uk](http://www.newlinearchitects.co.uk)

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### REVISIONS:

No: Description: Date: By:





<b>Report to</b>	<b>Council Meeting</b>
<b>Subject</b>	<b>Delegated Authority for Contract Approvals</b>
<b>Date</b>	<b>Thursday 25 June 2015</b>
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	<b>Anthony Tohill</b>
<b>Contact Officer</b>	

<b>1</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	To consider the use of 'Delegated Authority' powers in respect of Contract Approvals for Public Realm Schemes.

<b>2</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	<p>As Members will be aware, Council is currently progressing the three Public Realm Schemes across Dungannon, Cookstown and Magherafelt Towns.</p> <p>The two Schemes for Dungannon and Cookstown are currently out for Tender and due to close week commencing Monday 29 June.</p>

<b>3</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>								
3.1	<p>Members will be aware that Project Funding to a total value of £4.5m has been offered to Mid Ulster District Council to deliver the Schemes in question.</p> <p>The value of contribution to each Town Scheme is in the order of :-</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Town</th><th>Contribution Figure</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Dungannon</td><td>£ 1,790 K</td></tr> <tr> <td>Cookstown</td><td>2,288 K</td></tr> <tr> <td>Magherafelt</td><td>590 K</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The Tender details for the two Contracts for Cookstown and Dungannon close on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> June and Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2015, respectively.</p>	Town	Contribution Figure	Dungannon	£ 1,790 K	Cookstown	2,288 K	Magherafelt	590 K
Town	Contribution Figure								
Dungannon	£ 1,790 K								
Cookstown	2,288 K								
Magherafelt	590 K								
3.2	<p>Given the significant time pressures on delivery of these Programmes, it is proposed that Council gives 'delegated authority' to the Policy and Resources Committee under Section 7 of Local Government Act (NI) 2014 , to consider the Tender reports and award the respective Contracts for Dungannon and Cookstown, subject to appropriate arrangements being in place for same and no other issues arising.</p>								
<b>4</b>	<b>Resources</b>								

4.1	<b><u>Financial</u></b>
	N/ A
4.2	<b><u>Human</u></b>
	N/A
4.3	<b><u>Basis for Professional/ Consultancy Support</u></b>
	N/A
4.4	<b><u>Other</u></b>
	N/A.

<b>5</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
5.1	None.

<b>6</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
6.1	That Delegated Authority to award the Public Realm Contracts for Dungannon and Cookstown Towns, be given to the Policy and Resources Committee at its meeting on Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> July 2015.

<b>7</b>	<b>List of Documents Attached</b>
7.1	N/A

**J**

<b>Subject</b>	Consultations notified to Mid Ulster District Council
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Philip Moffett, Head of Democratic Services
<b>Contact Officer</b>	Maria Dale, Policy and Development Officer

<b>1</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	To update members on the consultations notified to Mid Ulster District Council for comment, since the last meeting of Council.

<b>2</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	Council is a consultee for many government departments, statutory agencies and other bodies, and as such receives consultation documentation inviting commentary on a wide range of issues which may be pertinent to council services and/or the District.

3	Key Issues																								
3.1	<p>The following outlines the open consultations of which Council has been notified:</p> <table><tr><th>Organisation</th><th>Issue</th><th>Closing Date</th></tr><tr><td>Department of Agriculture and Rural Development</td><td>Residues Consolidation of the Animals and Animal Products Regulations (NI) 1998 as amended</td><td>21 August 15</td></tr><tr><td>Department of Enterprise, Trade &amp; Investment</td><td>The Review of Tourism Accommodation Policy 2015-2020</td><td>24 July 15</td></tr><tr><td>Department of Health, Social Services &amp; Public Safety</td><td>Co-Operating to Safeguard Children &amp; Young People NI</td><td>21 August 15</td></tr><tr><td>Post Office</td><td>Proposed move of Ballinderry Bridge Post Office</td><td>1 July 15</td></tr><tr><td>HSC - Southern Health &amp; Social Care Trust</td><td>Future of Statutory Residential Care for Older People</td><td>18 Sept 15</td></tr><tr><td>Education Authority</td><td>Draft Equality Scheme</td><td>28 August 15</td></tr><tr><td>Department of the Environment</td><td>Draft Waste Management Licensing (Amendment No 2) Regulations (NI) 2015</td><td>25 Sept 15</td></tr></table>	Organisation	Issue	Closing Date	Department of Agriculture and Rural Development	Residues Consolidation of the Animals and Animal Products Regulations (NI) 1998 as amended	21 August 15	Department of Enterprise, Trade & Investment	The Review of Tourism Accommodation Policy 2015-2020	24 July 15	Department of Health, Social Services & Public Safety	Co-Operating to Safeguard Children & Young People NI	21 August 15	Post Office	Proposed move of Ballinderry Bridge Post Office	1 July 15	HSC - Southern Health & Social Care Trust	Future of Statutory Residential Care for Older People	18 Sept 15	Education Authority	Draft Equality Scheme	28 August 15	Department of the Environment	Draft Waste Management Licensing (Amendment No 2) Regulations (NI) 2015	25 Sept 15
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Education Authority	Draft Equality Scheme	28 August 15																							
Department of the Environment	Draft Waste Management Licensing (Amendment No 2) Regulations (NI) 2015	25 Sept 15																							
3.2	Documentation on the aforementioned consultations may be provided on request.																								

<b>4</b>	<b>Resources</b>
4.1	<b><u>Financial</u></b> - N/A
4.2	<b><u>Human</u></b> - N/A
4.3	<b><u>Basis for Professional/ Consultancy Support</u></b> - N/A
4.4	<b><u>Other</u></b> - N/A

<b>5</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
5.1	Not applicable

<b>6</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
6.1	Members review and note the open consultations.

<b>7</b>	<b>List of Documents Attached</b>
7.1	Not applicable