

**Minutes of Meeting of the Development Committee of Mid Ulster District Council  
held on Thursday 14 November 2019 in the Council Offices, Burn Road,  
Cookstown**

<b>Members Present</b>	Councillor Wilson, Chair  Councillors Ashton, Black, Burton, Clarke, Corry, Doris, Elattar, Hughes, Kearney, Kerr, McNamee, Milne, Molloy, Monteith
<b>Officers in Attendance</b>	Mrs Campbell, Director of Leisure and Outdoor Recreation Mr McCreesh, Director of Business and Communities Mr Browne, Head of Tourism Mr Hill, Head of Parks Ms Linney, Head of Community Development Mr McCance, Head of Culture and Arts Ms McKeown, Head of Economic Development Ms Mezza, Head of Marketing and Communications Mr O'Hagan, Head of ICT Mrs Grogan, Democratic Services Officer
<b>Others in Attendance</b>	<b>Agenda Item 4 – Deputations</b> <b>Cappagh Village Regeneration Group –</b> Ms Aisling Gillespie, Ciara Burke, Damien Donnelly, Danny Kerr, John Loughran <b>McCadden Design–</b> Mr Glenn Stewart

The meeting commenced at 7.00 pm.

**D182/19      Apologies**

Councillor Cuddy.

**D183/19      Declaration of Interests**

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

**D184/19      Chair's Business**

The Chair advised that the presentation from McCadden Design would take place immediately after the presentation from Cappagh Village Regeneration Group.

**D185/19      Deputation – Cappagh Village Regeneration Group**

The Chair, Councillor Wilson welcomed representatives from Cappagh Village Regeneration Group and invited them to make their presentation (appendix 1).

Ms Gillespie thanked Councillor Kerr for his assistance in bringing the group to present to the meeting tonight.

Ms Gillespie advised that Cappagh Village Regeneration Group (CVRG) was a group set up by local citizens within a voluntary capacity and their aim is to support community development and regeneration in the village by trying to source core funding. She said that Cappagh was a small rural village within the Altmore Ward of Torrent DEA. She referred to the dilapidated bus shelter outside the village which is absolutely unfit for purpose as it has been continuously hit by vehicles and an eyesore entering the village. She advised that the stark reality for the village was that there was deprivation, ownership issues, inability to access funding, continuous lack of investment, neglect and continuous challenges to revitalise the village.

Ms Burke outlined the key opportunities for Cappagh Village, namely the both reservoirs being identified by NI Water as surplus to requirements. She said that numerous meetings had taken place with Senior Officials and Elected Members of DSTBC, DARD, Water NI and Forest Service and at the time there was great ambition with Dungannon Council being tasked to explore disposal of the reservoirs from the Water Service and work with CVRG to develop the project. She said that there was commitment from Outdoor Recreation (appointed by Council) that masterplans would be developed to incorporate Forest Service areas and ownership issues being addressed, but unfortunately this never came to fruition due to the arrival of the Review of Public Administration.

Ms Burke said that there has been renewed interest in the project with potential development being explored with Altmore Forest. She said that Altmore Forest was a popular tourist attraction for visitors and local citizens and has the potential to create opportunities for walking, cycling, running, events, creative industries, forest schools etc incorporating a lot of aspects for tourism opportunities i.e potential for overnight accommodation provision (caravanning, pods and camping/glamping etc), renewable energy opportunities particularly around hydro, culture and heritage, education, multipurpose health, recreation facility and community use.

Ms Burke concluded by saying that the group would like commitment from MUDC with the next steps being:

- Addressing Ownership issues
- Holistic perspective of the area and its potential
- Council demonstrating leadership and commitment to invest in building civic pride and regenerating Cappagh
- Catalyst for other opportunities and investment
- Capacity
- Support

*Councillor Ashton left the meeting at 7.19 pm and returned at 7.22 pm.*

The Chair thanked the group for their presentation and referring to the dilapidated bus shelter advised that this should not be in this condition and advised that a report had been brought to the last Environment Committee on Bus Shelter Policy and Procedures and hoped that this would fall into this remit.

Councillor Kerr said that he welcomed Cappagh Village Regeneration Group to the meeting tonight and commended them on their impressive presentation. He said that he recognised the fact that Cappagh was a beautiful part of the area and has a great deal of potential, which he hoped after tonight's presentation the Officers would also agree. He said that he understood the Regeneration group had felt let down in the past, but he believed from tonight's meeting that going forward Mid Ulster District Council will assist and aid the group's intentions and make them into a reality.

Councillor Doris thanked the group for their great presentation and stated that she felt that this initiative should be really pushed forward and a reconfirmation of commitment to the project and said that she appealed to all the Councillors to go and see for themselves what potential was there and what can be achieved.

Councillor Monteith said that the Cappagh community had been let down by Dungannon Council in the past and when they made a presentation to Council 10 years ago, they never envisaged being back here all these years later still seeking the same things and there is a feeling that nothing will ever be achieved.

Councillor Milne agreed it was a good presentation and said that he would recommend that Officers of this Council sit down with Cappagh Village Regeneration Group to see what can be achieved.

Proposed by Councillor Milne  
Seconded by Councillor McNamee and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council that Officers and members of Cappagh Village Regeneration Group come together to see what can be achieved.

The Chair, thanked the representatives of Cappagh Village Regeneration Group for their attendance and they withdrew from the meeting at 7.24 pm.

Councillor Monteith said that he has continuously raised his concerns about groups being asked to leave the room after their presentation. He said he has great difficulty with this as this was a public meeting and then we are asking groups to leave. He stated that he had checked the Standing Orders and nowhere was it indicated that the public should be asked to leave a public meeting.

The Director of Business and Communities advised that this matter was at the discretion of the Chair.

The Chair advised that he didn't ask the group to leave but thanked them for their presentation at which they withdrew from the meeting themselves.

Councillor Kerr asked that the play park recommended in The Parks and Play Strategy for Altmore in years 5+ be brought forward to Year 1.

Councillor Elattar advised that DEA meetings had taken place for members where issues had been raised and why had that been raised then.

The Chair advised that the matter would be considered at the agenda item relating to the Parks and Play Strategy.

**D186/19      McCadden Design**

The Chair advised that representatives from McCadden Design were running a bit late and would be dealt with later in the meeting.

**D187/19      VE Events 2020**

The Head of Tourism presented previously circulated report to propose a series of events to commemorate the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of VE Day, 8<sup>th</sup> May 2020.

The Chair asked that ex-servicemen from Lissan be included in the Programme of Events.

Councillor Doris asked if costings could be brought to the next meeting.

The Head of Tourism advised that costings would be available after tonight's meeting when they were recognised and that costings would be brought back.

Proposed by Councillor Black  
Seconded by Councillor Burton and

**Resolved**      That it be recommended to Council to deliver a series of events as previously detailed in the report to commemorate VE Day.

**D188/19      Holiday World Shows, Dublin**

The Head of Tourism presented previously circulated report and sought permission to display the region and its tourism product at the Holiday World Show, Dublin on 25 – 27 January 2020 at the RDS, Dublin.

Proposed by Councillor Black  
Seconded by Councillor Corry and

**Resolved**      That it be recommended to Council that approval be granted to attend Holiday World Show, Dublin on 25 – 27 January 2020 at the RDS, Dublin to promote Mid Ulster Tourism product and lead with Davagh Dark Sky experience.

**D189/19      Proposal to name “The Events Space” and “Meeting Room” at Hill of The O’Neill, Dungannon**

The Head of Culture & Arts presented previously circulated report and sought approval to name “The Events Space” and “The Meeting Room” at Hill of The O’Neill, Dungannon to “The Earls Quarter” and “Mabel’s Hall” respectively.

Councillor Molloy asked what engagement took place around these proposed names as he felt that the names were out of character for what this was and suggested that a debate be carried out before agreeing to this proposal.

The Head of Culture & Arts said that the names had come about during discussions with staff members but would be happy to receive some steering from Councillors if they so wished.

Councillor Doris agreed with Councillor Molloy and felt that there was a need for consultations around this before proceeding.

Councillor Monteith said that these names mean nothing and has no relevance to the Hill and that Mabel Bagenal should only be a footnote. The story of the Hill is not only about "The O'Neill's" but more about pre-Christian times and the focus act in this should be more about Dún Geanainn, meaning "Geanann's Fort" and the flint arrows. He felt that the history was all lost and this was an opportunity to widen out the scope as Dungannon has a story to tell as it has the longest settlement and would agree to the other members suggestions.

The Chair agreed that Dungannon DEA's should come together to discuss a way forward.

Councillor Monteith asked that when discussions were taking place with Dungannon DEA's, that the issue of the mast be included in this as he has continuously raised this issue for years and needed addressing once and for all.

Proposed by Councillor Doris  
Seconded by Councillor Molloy and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council that a Dungannon DEA meeting be arranged to discuss the naming of the Event's Space and Meeting Room at the Hill of The O'Neill.

## **D190/19 Community Development Report**

The Head of Community Development presented previously circulated report and provided an update on the following:

*Councillor Monteith declared an interest in Eoghan Ruadh Hurling Club.*

*Councillor Kearney declared an interest in St. Columba's Camogie Club, Greenlough.*

- **Rolling Grant Awards – Good Relations and Local Community Festivals**

Proposed by Councillor McNamee  
Seconded by Councillor Kerr and

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

- (i) Rolling Grant Awards – Good Relations (£4,235) and Local Community Festivals (£3,900) as per grant recommendations at Appendix 1 of report.
- (ii) Reallocation of £15,000 from Community Development – Community Services salaries to Community Festivals budget.

- **Peace IV**

Proposed by Councillor McNamee  
Seconded by Councillor Kerr and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to support the underwriting of advances within the Peace IV Project (CWSAN £36,000 and Rural Action £59,560) based on the criteria to mitigate risk.

- **Community Planning Performance Statement Report**

Members noted Community Planning Performance Statement Report.

- **Community Development Update**

Members noted Community Development Update.

Councillor Ashton enquired why there was a delay on the Community Development Assistant post being taken up.

The Head of Community Development advised that the delay resulted in the previous Community Development Assistant taking over the post of Neighbourhood Renewal Co-Ordinator, when the trawl went out the Peace Assistant was successful in securing the Community Assistant post but due to funding timeline pressure of programme completion next year, the Assistant agreed to remain in post and take up the CDA role next year, resulting in the re-advertisement for a temporary Community Development Assistant for this period.

## **D191/19 Grant Aid Review**

The Head of Community Development presented previously circulated report to agree the Community Grants Policy 2020 – 2021. She brought members attention to the recommendation for an uplift in the budget of £35,000 which would be recurring funding, and to the £150,000 for the discretionary grants which would be non-recurring funding and will be considered annually as part of the budget process. She also noted the advances for groups and a sustainable 3-year funding process for a number of identified strategic grants.

Councillor Doris asked for an amendment to ‘festivals to be free at the point of delivery’ to remove this as groups organising festivals including 5k and 10k events have costs to incur and it is important that they are supported.

Councillor Monteith seconded Councillor Doris’ proposal and said that there was no point in asking groups to be sustainable and then ask them to contribute to the event themselves.

Proposed by Councillor Doris  
Seconded by Councillor Monteith and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to approve the Community Grants Policy for 2020-2021; with the amendment to the festivals grant removing the condition of 'free at the point of delivery', with the proviso of an additional £35,000 recurrent funding, £150,000 for the discretionary capital grant which is non-recurring funding and to be considered each year through the budget process, and the stated advance and sustainability for groups for a 3 year funding process for a number of identified strategic events.

Councillor Monteith said that the policy needed to be amended to have an annual increase year on year for grants as people are coming back thanking us for the amount of funding but advising that the amount was not adequate to cover rising costs. He said that there was a need for consideration of inflationary costs increases each year.

Proposed by Councillor Monteith  
Seconded by Councillor Kerr and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council that an inflationary increase be written considered each year as part of the annual grants policy review.

#### **D192/19 Economic Development Report for Decision**

The Head of Economic Development presented previously circulated report which provided an update on key activities as detailed below:

- **Rural Connected Communities 5G Testbed Programme**

Proposed by Councillor Clarke  
Seconded by Councillor McNamee

Councillor McNamee enquired what concerns were being flagged up regarding health issues associated with 5G rollout.

The Head of Economic Development advised that sections of the community would have had expressed concerns about the health risks of 5G, particularly in respect of the extremely high (so-called mmWave) frequencies. The Government's documented position is that there is no convincing evidence of health effects within the regulatory limits.

The Head of ICT stated that whilst there may be some anecdotal concerns within the media, the Council would seek to take an evidence-based approach in assessing the potential for 5G, taking into account concerns around safety. The current technology that possesses a lesser ability to penetrate buildings and obstacles. The technology is still very much in its infancy in terms of deployments with only major cities receiving service by a few communications providers.

Councillor Kerr said that he welcomed any attempt to address tackling rural broadband as it was a huge issue affecting the more rural areas of Mid Ulster. He said that this was a topic at the doors of houses in Derrylaughan and other areas around it but it seems 5G doesn't come without major implications.

He asked that Mid Ulster District Council is cautious on the rolling out of 5G until it is fully investigated and considered safe. He said that while rural broadband is something we need to tackle, there was a need to be extremely and put in place rigorous checks for 5G and its safety.

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

- (I) FFNI Operations Team carry out a comprehensive and detailed report analysing the risks and benefits of 5G roll out, considering all available evidence and information on behalf of all Consortium Members.
- (II) FFNI Operations Team continue to engage with key stakeholders to develop materials for a bid, working with Consortium members in preparation for future 5G funding.
- (III) Mid Ulster Council (like other consortium members) set aside a budget to up to £8,000 in its Economic Development budget for work associated with 5G co-ordination, stakeholder engagement and bid development assisted through Consultancy support as outlined in Appendix 1.

- **Women in Business Report on ‘Yes You Can’ Programme – Year 1**

Proposed by Councillor Burton  
Seconded by Councillor McNamee

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to approve the release of Year 2 (2019/20) financial contribution of £6,060 for Women in Business and Note Year 1 ‘Yes You Can’ Report as outlined in Appendix 2.

Councillor Kearney wanted to congratulate Ms Louise Breen from Mallon McCormick Solicitors in Maghera on her success in winning the Women in Business “Business Woman of the Year 2019 Award” which was held in Belfast.

- **Data Sharing Agreement with Invest NI**

Proposed by Councillor Kerr  
Seconded by Councillor McNamee and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to approve Data Sharing Agreement with Invest NI for signature and return as outlined in Appendix 3.

- **Consultation on Proposed Salary Threshold – UK Immigration System Post-Brexit**

Councillor Kerr said that he would like to add that migration threshold salary for post-Brexit deal is absolutely ridiculous. He stated that he works in the engineering background and the workforce is predominately Eastern European or people from the old Socialist Bloc and if these people were to leave tomorrow the engineering sector in Mid Ulster would collapse resulting in jobs and the local economy being ruined and felt that a case should be made for exceptional circumstances for Mid Ulster.



Councillor Monteith asked that a Dungannon DEA meeting be arranged to update members on Ann Street Development.

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to retrospectively approve Council's formal response as outlined in Appendix 4 to Migration Advisory Committee which had to be submitted by 5<sup>th</sup> November 2019 before the consultation period ended. However, if any Councillor has further comment's they wish to add, these can be forwarded as an addendum.

### **D193/19 Parks and Play Five Year Strategic Plan**

The Head of Parks presented previously circulated report and sought approval for the Parks and Play Five Year Strategic Plan.

Councillor Doris advised that she had met the Head of Parks on Monday prior to this meeting in relation to the current Neighbourhood Renewal equipment that is currently at Gortgonis but will be moving out when the leisure facility and new parks are delivered. This play equipment was set for Innishmore but Neighbourhood Renewal who bought this equipment feels that it is best served at the houses at the back of Gortview, as it was a dangerous road to cross and it is in the most economically deprived area in Coalisland. She stated that the residents of Innishmore would not be happy to receive second hand equipment into their area and deserve new equipment and investment into their area.

Proposed by Councillor Doris

To accept the Officer recommendation with amendment to incorporate Councillor Milne's earlier proposal regarding liaising with representatives of Cappagh Village Regeneration Group in relation to funding.

Proposed by Councillor Kerr

To move Cappagh/Altmore Forest from year 5+ to year 1 and that a meeting be arranged with NI Water on reservoirs prior to Christmas to progress the issue. Any DEA meetings to be arranged to accommodate those elected members which are working.

Seconded by Councillor Monteith

The Chair, said that it was not reasonable to move a project up the timescale as this would mean that all members could request the same.

Councillor Monteith said that there was a need to arrange DEA meetings so people can get their points across without any contentious matters as it was unfair to say that proposals were agreed at DEA level and to have so many plus five years is unacceptable.

Proposed by Councillor Monteith

To reject the Parks and Play Five Year Strategic Plan.

Councillor Corry advised that it was proposed at the last Development meeting that separate DEA meetings would be arranged to deal with Parks so every Councillor would have a chance to feed in.

Councillor McNamee said that it was the first time he had heard this tonight but would second Councillor Doris' recommendation.

Councillor Monteith said that he was concerned about the strategy and would have reservations about the 5+ years ever coming to anything.

The Director of Leisure and Outdoor Recreation advised that the 5+ years was to accommodate issues relating to land, forestry matters which can be time consuming to resolve and if an opportunity arises for funding to be made available from another budget then this can be addressed if the projects are included in a strategic plan.

The Head of Parks said that if an opportunity does arise before 5+ years this would allow for a blue print for developments to come forward.

Councillor Molloy referred to concerns from residents in the Moy regarding the ongoing development of education site and how it could interact. He said that the community in Moy were promised that this would be complete within the timescale and they are still waiting. He stated that there was a need to address this as it was unacceptable that a village has no pitch.

The Director of Leisure and Outdoor Recreation said that this was being progressed and she was arranging a previously organised meeting.

Councillor Doris said that although she shared Councillor Kerr's frustration, she felt that Councillor Milne's proposal will give us a better opportunity to look at additional avenues of funding that will hopefully deliver not only a play park quicker in Cappagh, but will address the many issues that the group face.

Councillor Burton asked that between Tourism and Parks departments, investigations be carried out on trying to bring more tourism opportunities to President Grant's as she felt that it was being neglected. She said that there was a need to upgrade the play equipment as it was in a dilapidated state and hasn't been looked at for many years.

The Chair advised that there were 3 proposals in front members tonight to vote on.

Councillor Kerr's proposal to move Cappagh/Altmore Forest from Year 5+ to Year 1.

For	2
Against	0
Abstained	13

The Director of Leisure and Outdoor Recreation advised that it would not be feasible to complete the Cappagh/Altmore Forest project in Year 1 due to issues around land ownership and agreement of a licence with the Forest Service which would likely take more than a year to complete.

Councillor Milne advised that no-one was against the proposal, but this was about funding issues.

Councillor Corry advised that everyone had their own priorities and wanted the best for their own areas.

Councillor Kerr stated that he could foresee nothing being done to sort Cappagh/Altmore Forest out.

Councillor Monteith agreed with Councillor Kerr.

Councillor Monteith withdrew his proposal to reject the Parks and Play Five Year Strategic Plan.

The Director of Leisure and Outdoor Recreation referred to Altmore and said that they were looking at a bigger plan for the reservoir and that the playpark was part of it. This is included on the Outdoor Recreation Strategy which Development Committee deferred at the last meeting to early 2020.

The Head of Parks agreed that it was not feasible to complete the Cappagh/Altmore project within a 12-month timespan due to the size of the project and the legal agreements involved.

Councillor Elattar said that she was happy to agree to Councillor Doris' proposal and that it would be most important that meetings take place between Officers and Cappagh Village Regeneration Group as they feel there has been a break down in communication with the Council.

Councillor Molloy said that if the Council accepts Councillor Kerr's proposal of moving Cappagh/Altmore Forest Project up to Year 1 then Council could be guilty of promising something which can not be delivered within the timeframe.

Councillor Kerr asked that a meeting be arranged with NI Water Service before the end of this year to try and get things progressing forward.

Councillor Milne said that there was an onus on members to try and get the best for the village of Cappagh and stated that this should be done without a political issue as the residents deserve better.

Councillor Kerr's proposal was put to the vote

For	2
Against	9

Councillor Doris' proposal was put to the vote

For	13
Against	0

Councillor Doris' proposal was carried.

The Director of Business and Communities advised members that there was a complexity regarding reservoirs, but members could be assured that this project would be given priority as it was a wonderful opportunity for the area.

The Chair thanked staff for a well put together report.

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council that approval be granted to the:

- (I) Parks and Play Five Year Strategic Plan with amendment to incorporate Councillor Milne's earlier proposal regarding liaising with representatives of Cappagh Village Regeneration Group in relation to funding opportunities. Also include amendment that current Neighbourhood Renewal equipment that is currently at Gortgonis be moved to a suitable location at the houses at the back of Gortview.
- (II) Appointment of suitability qualified Integrated Consultancy and Supply Teams (ICT and IST) to deliver the five-year action plan objectives as detailed.

#### **D194/19 Sport NI Multi Facility Fund Application**

The Acting Head of Leisure presented previously circulated report to update Members of the outcome of the Sport NI Multi Facility Fund Application.

In response to a member query regarding lands at CAFRE, the Acting Head of Leisure advised that a meeting was due to be held on Monday 25 November and an update would be provided to members.

Proposed by Councillor McNamee  
Seconded by Councillor Kerr and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council that approval be granted to:

- (I) Noting the success of the Stage 2 application and working with Sport NI towards developing the project.
- (II) Procure a consultant to complete a Green Book Economic Appraisal for the project as required at an estimated cost of £15,000.

#### **D195/19 Sports Representative Grants**

The Acting Head of Leisure presented previously circulated report to present to Members the proposed community grant allocations for the range of Sport Representative Grant – Team and Individuals.

*Councillor Monteith declared an interest in Eoghan Ruadh Hurling Club.*

Proposed by Councillor Kerr  
Seconded by Councillor Clarke and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to approve the Sports Grants allocations.

## **Matters for Information**

### **D196/19 Minutes of Development Committee held on 10 October 2019**

Members noted Minutes of Development Committee held on 10 October 2019.

Councillor Molloy wanted to thank Officers on behalf of the White City residents for the work that was achieved in resolving the issue relating to the replacement wall.

### **D197/19 Regional and Minority Language Implementation Working**

Members noted Minutes of Regional and Minority Language Implementation Working Group held on 21 October 2019.

Councillor McNamee said that he wanted to commend the Irish Language Officer on the positive comments received by Council through the recent Conradh na Gaeilge report.

### **D198/19 Economic Development Report for Information**

Members noted update on key activities as detailed below:

- Coalisland Town Centre Forum Minutes – 2 September 2019
- Heels on the Hill – Evaluation Report 2019
- Manufacturing & Engineering Growth and Advancement (MEGA) Feature in the Agenda NI Magazine
- NI Business Start Programme 2017-2021 Update
- ICBAN Report: The Border into Brexit Interim Findings
- Mid Ulster Enterprise Week (18-22 November 2019)
- Cookstown Market Rights

In response to a member's query about Cookstown Market Rights, the Head of Economic Development advised that the owner of the market rights in Cookstown has advised he does not presently wish to sell these, but has noted Council's interest in the matter.

### **D199/19 Leisure Services Provided in Relation to Older People and Those Living with a Disability**

Members noted report on Leisure Services Provided in Relation to Older People and Those Living with a Disability.

Councillor Kerr said that he welcomed the report on the provision of activities for older people and those living with the disability and said that some groups had contacted him to signpost families towards the Council.

He referred to worthy organisations as detailed below:

- MACP – Coalisland based organisation which has specialist counsellors who are trained in dealing with autistic related issues
- Tobin Youth Centre – Moortown which runs activities and support groups helping families and children dealing with autism and down syndrome.
- Friends 2 Talk – Coalisland which is based in the Community Hub which tries to get people to meet and have a general chat, which is beneficial to the elderly when they attend
- National Autism Society which is operational in Coalisland.

Proposed by Councillor Kerr  
Seconded by Councillor Doris and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council that MACP, Tobin Youth Centre, Friends 2 Talk and National Autism Society all be included in the communications regarding Council delivered programmes.

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

Proposed by Councillor McNamee  
Seconded by Councillor Doris and

**Resolved** In accordance with Section 42, Part 1 Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (NI) 2014 that Members of the public be asked to withdraw from the meeting whilst Members consider items D200/19 to D209/19.

#### **Matters for Decision**

D200/19	Davagh Dark Sky Observatory and Visitor Centre – Briefing
D201/19	Lissan House Update
D202/19	Mid Ulster Town & Village Business Spruce Up Scheme
D203/19	ERDF Application for NI Business Start Up Programme 2021-22
D204/19	Design, Print, Supply and Delivery of Branded Promotional Materials and Stationery for Cookstown & Magherafelt Town Centres
D205/19	Design, Print, Supply and Delivery of Branded Jute Shopping Bags for Cookstown & Magherafelt Town Centres
D206/19	Tender Report for the Appointment of a Contractor to deliver the Mid Ulster Gearing for Growth Programme

#### **Matters for Information**

D207/19	Confidential Minutes of Development Committee held on 10 October 2019
D208/19	Mid South West Region Growth Deal
D209/19	Full Fibre NI (FFNI) Project

### **D210/19 Duration of Meeting**

The meeting commenced at 7 pm and concluded at 8.48 pm.

CHAIR \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

# CAPPAGH VILLAGE REGENERATION GROUP (CVRG)

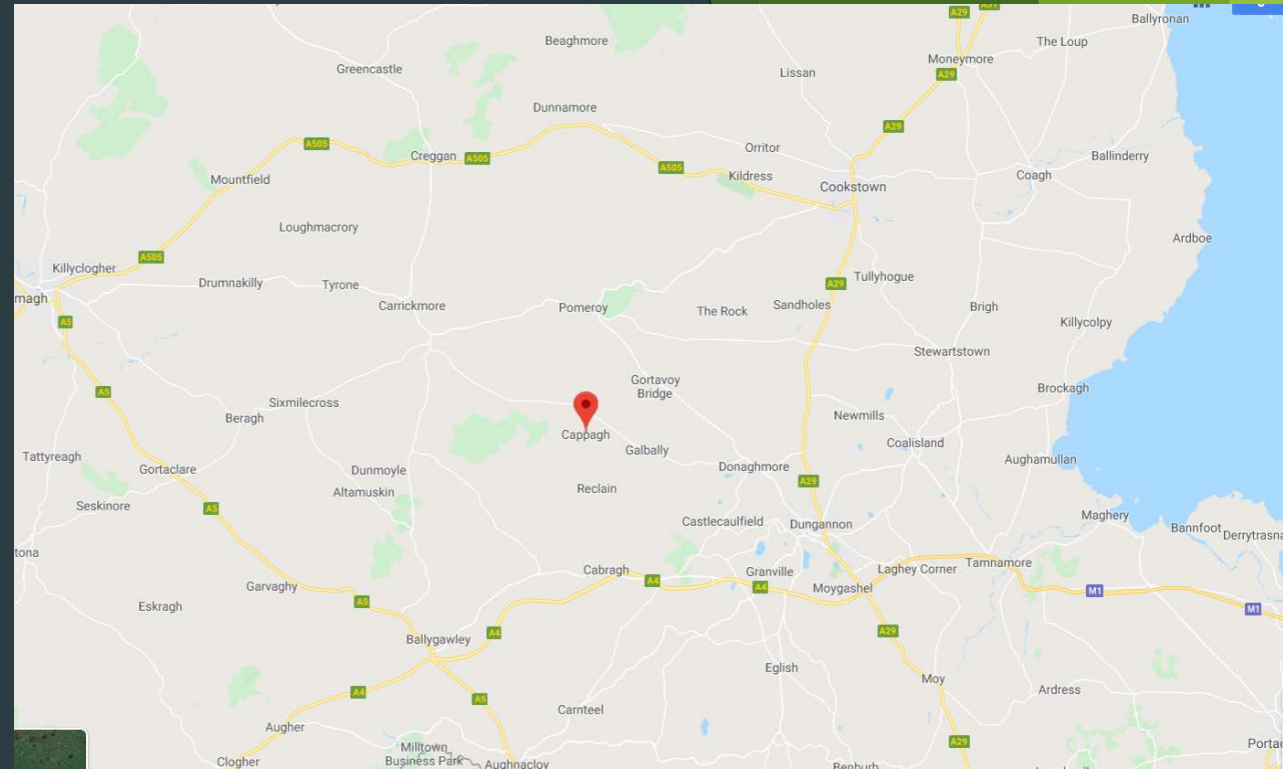






# Who are we?

- Established in 2009
- Local citizens
- Voluntary committee
- Do not receive any core funding
- Aim- To support community development & regeneration in village & surrounding area
- Small rural village, within Altmore Ward of Torrent DEA



# What have we done..

- Completed a Community Audit to establish need
- Established Welcome signage to the Village
- Secured funding and enabled Altmore Lay by to be regenerated and physically enhanced
- Acquired hanging baskets in Village following initial securing of funding for this, which Council has maintained annually
- Annual Festive programme with village Christmas Tree
- Delivered a heritage based project (Book launched, events etc)
- Secured community engagement programmes and activities e.g. craft classes, sewing workshops, upcycling
- Health and well-being initiatives
- Installation of Defibrillator
- Contributed to the Village Plans for Cappagh area







# Reality of our village....

- ▶ Deprivation
- ▶ Ownership
- ▶ Unable to access funding
- ▶ Continuous lack of investment
- ▶ Neglected and Forgotten
- ▶ Challenges faced to date






# Key opportunities for Cappagh village....

- NI Water identified both reservoirs were surplus to requirements
- Series of meetings held by Senior Officials and Elected Representatives of DSTBC, DARD, Water NI, Forest Service
- Council tasked to explore disposal and work with CVRG to develop project
- Commitment from DSTBC and Outdoor Recreation (appointed by Council) that masterplans would be developed to incorporate Forest Service areas and ownership issues would be addressed



 Land & Property Services.  
LPS Central Advisory Unit  
Queens Court  
56-66 Upper Queen Street  
Town Parks  
BELFAST, BT1 6FD  
Tel: 028 9054 3757  
Fax: 028 9054 3770  
Date: 14<sup>th</sup> May 2014  
Our Ref: 88/14

RECEIVED  
15 MAY 2014

Dear Mrs Kerr, COUNCIL BUSINESS UNIT

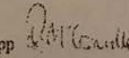
DISPOSAL OF ALTMORE IR, CAPPAGH ROAD, DUNGANNON


I enclose for your information copies of a D1 form and map giving details of land and property which have been declared surplus to NI Water's requirements.

Disposal procedures have been initiated in respect of this land. If the land would be of interest to your Department or Agency I would be grateful if you would contact me in writing at Central Advisory Unit within **15 working days** from date of this letter.

Please note that LPS have not carried out a valuation on this property. Nor will LPS be acting between interested public sector bodies and NIW, who will be represented by McKibben estate agents

If no reply is received before the time period is up it is assumed that you have no interest in acquiring this property. If there may be another body you are aware of who may have an interest please pass this letter on to them as soon as possible

Yours sincerely,  
pp   
Peter Johnston  
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# Excitement

## Altmore hydroelectric plant brings power to the people!

By MATTHEW DAWSON

**HYDROELECTRIC** power could be coming to Dungannon - and saving taxpayers money!

A plant could potentially be sited at two disused reservoirs at Altmore, near Cappagh. And Dungannon & South Tyrone Borough Council is expected to formally express an interest in buying the reservoirs at next week's full Council meeting.

Presently the reservoirs are publicly owned but they are to be sold off and local Councils are being given the first opportunity to express an interest in purchasing the property.

And the Council is expected to do so, with a view towards opening

a hydroelectric plant which would then link in with the main grid.

Hydroelectricity is produced through the use of the gravitational force of falling or flowing water and is the most commonly used form of renewable energy in the world, and this would be the first of its kind in Northern Ireland if it were to come to fruition.

The electricity generated would be sold to the electricity supplier and the money would then go into the Council coffers, and hopefully help keep rates down for the people of Mid-Ulster.

With the success of the facility at Tullyvar in bringing money into the Council, it is hoped this scheme could be of similar benefit.

The idea had first been forwarded to the Council two years ago

Altmore Reservoir, Cappagh. dd2360

by residents in Cappagh, but now an opportunity appears to have presented itself for the Council to act.

And Ulster Unionist Councillor Walter Cuddy, who has also

been elected to the new Mid-Ulster District Council, has stated his hopes the plans will become a reality.

Speaking to the Courier, Cllr Cuddy said: "It would be a real

cash cow if we could grasp this opportunity and it would take the pressure off the ratepayers.

"I see it as a really good opportunity and with the price of elec-

tricity going up and up if we had something going into the grid the return out of it would keep price with inflation and it will be for the benefit of everyone in Mid-Ulster."

## TYRONE'S FIRST EVER ECO-VILLAGE

By ANTHONY QUINN

**AMBITIOUS** plans to make a Tyrone village self-sufficient in terms of electricity are underway after a community group unveiled the proposal at a meeting of Dungannon District Council.

Cappagh Village Regeneration Group said they are seeking guidance with their plans to create an hydroelectric power plant at the site of two disused reservoirs in Altmore.

If the scheme goes the go-ahead the group hopes to build at least two

turbines at the reservoirs, which were previously owned by NI Water.

The proposal was raised at last month's meeting of Dungannon Council's Strategic Committee, and was welcomed by local councillors who have agreed to help the group progress with the plans.

Sinn Féin Councillor Mickey Gillespie said the plans are at an early stage, but that the power plant would be a great boon to the area, and supply free electricity.

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# Tyrone Times

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# Review of Public Administration arrived



- Within DSTBC 2010 Area Plan Cappagh had Village Status and MUDC proposed removal of village status in its Preferred Options Plan of the Local Development Plan
- CVRG and local residents campaigned to secure Village Status for Cappagh
- Impact of MUDC's consideration of removing Village Status was immediately evident in the council only considering towns and villages (in the POP) for "Town and Village Spruce Up" scheme using and therefore Cappagh excluded from applying.
- Further impacted on regeneration opportunities within the Village area
- CVRG contributed to renewed Village Planning process - continuing to prioritise the Reservoir/Forest potential
- Engaged with The Heart of Ancient Ulster Landscape Partnership given Heritage value
- Highlighted potential funding opportunities to Officers and Elected representatives (e.g. DEARA's Environment Fund, Village Renewal, Lottery Opportunities etc)





# Renewed Interest

- Elected Representatives and Council Officials
- Inclusion in key strategies
  - MUDC Parks and Play Five Year Strategic Plan
  - MUDC Outdoor Recreation Five Year Strategic Plan
  - Seen what MUDC have delivered in other areas
  - Invitation to visit and gain an appreciation



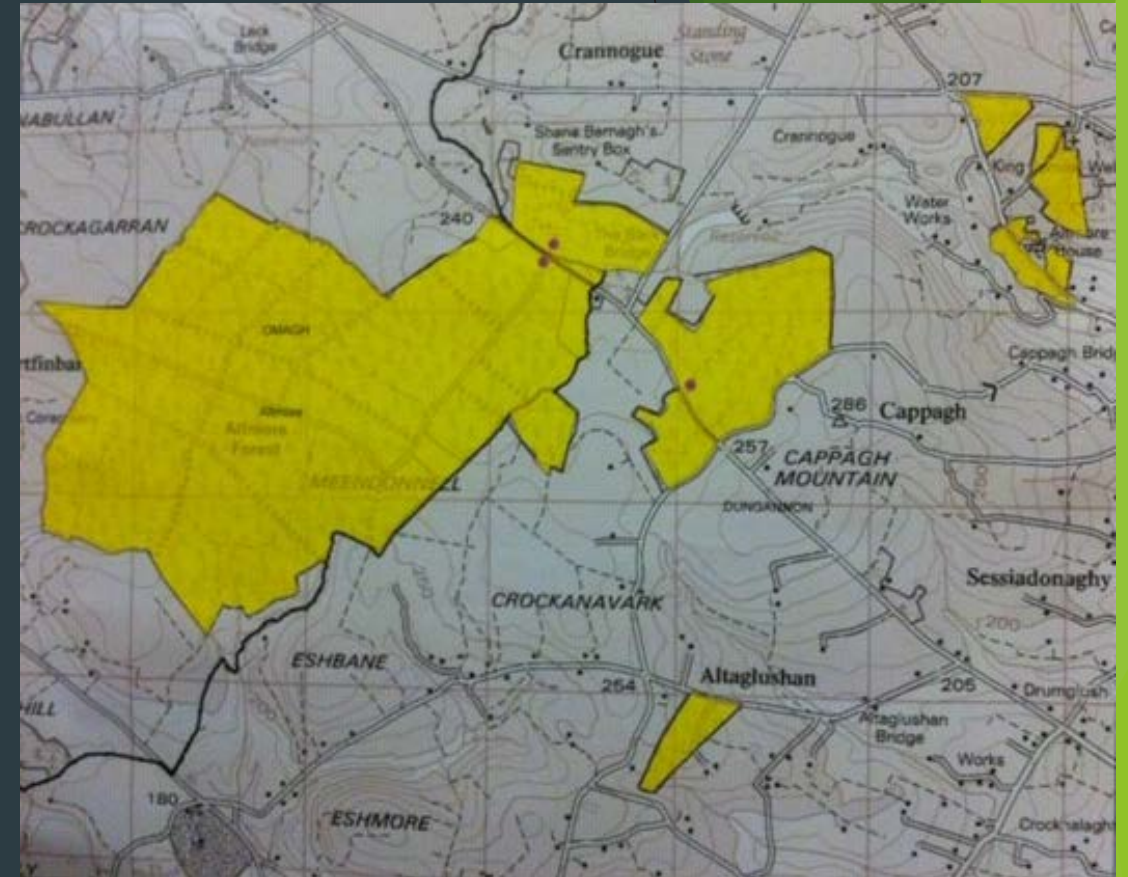
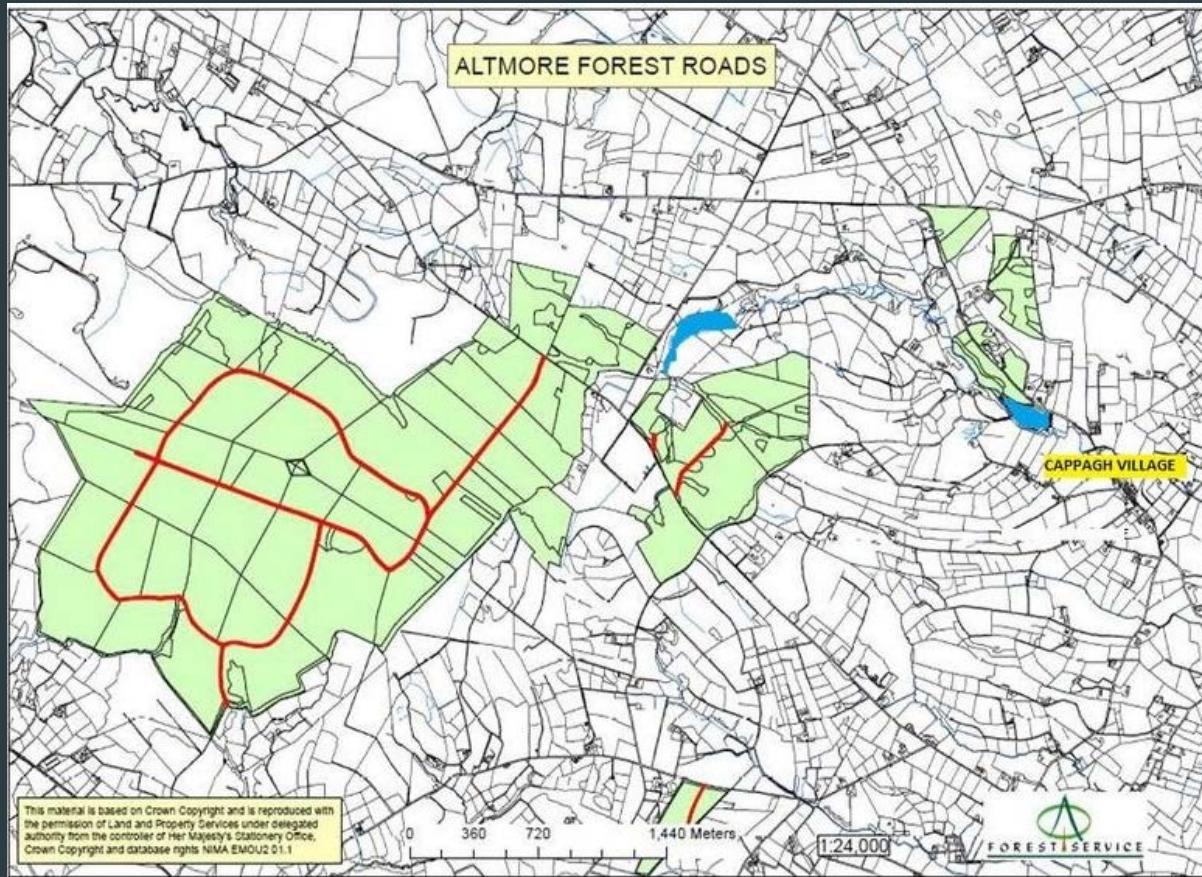








# Ownership



“Public Sector Family” manage a significant land area within the Cappagh Village vicinity  
Altmore Forest (579 Ha)

# Potential Development

LAND BASED ACTIVITIES	WATER BASED ACTIVITIES
Walking	Angling
Cycling	Sailing
Running	Canoeing
Orienteering	Water ski
Archery	Diving
Gardening	Triathlon training
Sensory based activities	Rafting
Trim trails	Jet Ski
Equestrian	
Play provision	

Associated programme of events



# Potential Development explored

- ▶ Altmore Forest could reach its potential enabling the enjoyment of this asset by visitors and local citizens as it could create opportunities for walking, cycling, running, events, creative industries, forest schools
- ▶ Tourism and visitor potential given the significant cultural and heritage links within the area to King James, General James Shields, Barracktown House, the O'Neill Family, Earl of Tyrone and the ancient highway. Showcasing heritage of the area through interpretation to increasing tourism potential, including the creation of standout and unique selling points.
- ▶ Visitor servicing, provision of amenities, parking, potential overnight accommodation provision (Caravanning, pods and camping/glamping etc.)
- ▶ Sustainability and Renewable energy opportunities, particularly around hydro
- ▶ Biodiversity trails enhancing education and awareness of flora and fauna and the ecosystems
- ▶ Play provision for both local need and visitor appeal (all ages)
- ▶ Sensory gardens, trails and links to O'Neill family Herb and Medicinal Gardens
- ▶ Multipurpose health, education, recreation facility with community use
- ▶ Delivery of service provision in rural area (e.g. Healthy Living Centre)
- ▶ Arts, Culture and Heritage



# Value and Advantage

- ▶ Gamechanger for Cappagh and Altmore
- ▶ Unique opportunity for Mid Ulster District Council to demonstrate civic leadership
- ▶ Create a leading, award winning flagship facility for play and outdoor recreation
- ▶ Unlock the tourist potential by creating a “Must See visitor destination and visitor experience”
- ▶ Exceed local needs and become a social, physical, and economic driver
- ▶ Drive investment to ensure this project reaches its potential
- ▶ Regenerate Cappagh and stimulate further economic and investment opportunities
- ▶ Sustain the local assets for benefit of citizens and visitors
- ▶ Community development approach with co-design and co-production
- ▶ Sustainable approaches
- ▶ Enhance health and well-being, education,
- ▶ Community engagement, participation and address social isolation
- ▶ Improve quality of life
- ▶ Civic pride

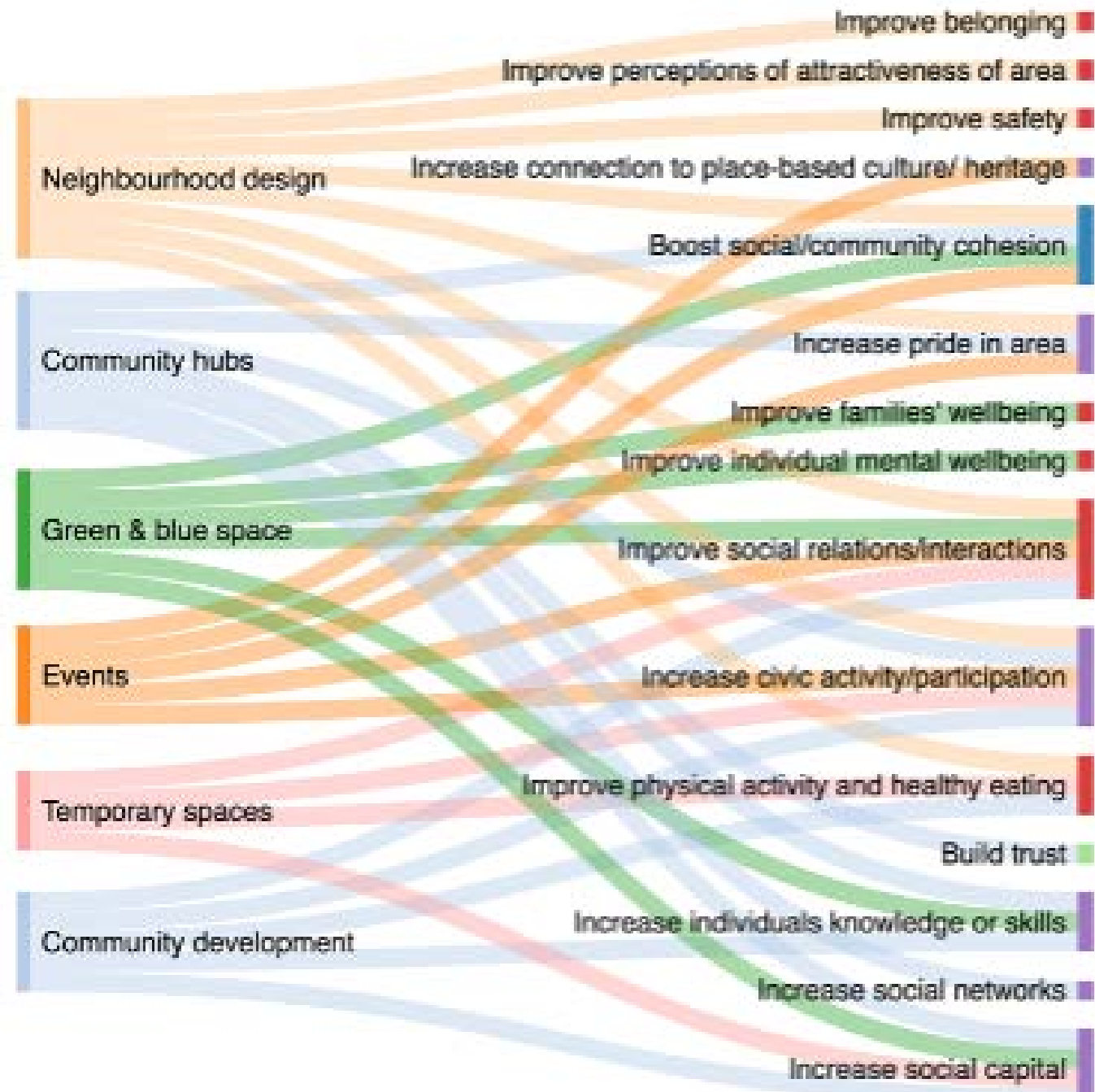








# Impact and Outcomes



# Next steps

- ▶ Address Ownership Issues
- ▶ Holistic perspective of the area and its potential
- ▶ Council must demonstrate leadership and commitment to invest in building civic pride and regenerating Cappagh
- ▶ Catalyst for other opportunities and investment
- ▶ Capacity
- ▶ Support



What is MUDC commitment to the Cappagh area?