

Minutes of Meeting of Policy and Resources Committee of Mid Ulster District Council held on Thursday 3 October 2019 in the Council Offices, Ballyronan Road, Magherafelt

Members Present

Councillor Molloy, Chair

Councillors Ashton, Buchanan, Colvin, Doris, Elattar, Forde, Gildernew, Hughes, McFlynn, S McGuigan, McLean, S McPeake, Totten

Officers in Attendance

Mr A Tohill, Chief Executive
Mrs Canavan, Director of Organisational Development
Mr O'Hagan, Head of IT
Mr Kelso, Director of Public Health and Infrastructure
Ms McNally, Council Solicitor
Ms Mezza, Head of Marketing and Communications
Mr JJ Tohill, Director of Finance
Miss Thompson, Democratic Services Officer

The meeting commenced at 7.00 pm.

PR166/19 Apologies

Councillors McKinney and Quinn.

PR167/19 Declaration of Interest

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

Councillor Forde declared an interest in Agenda Item 12 – Maghera Development Opportunity – Additional Land.

PR168/19 Chair's Business

Councillor Ashton stated that at the Policy and Resources meeting in March it had been agreed that a report would be brought back to Committee in relation to the Air Ambulance motion. The Councillor stated that, to date, a report had not been presented and asked that a report be brought to Committee as soon as possible.

Matters for Decision

PR169/19 Corporate Plan 2020-2023: Timetable Update & Request Authority To Proceed To Public Consultation

The Head of Marketing and Communications presented previously circulated report which provided update on the timetable for the development of the Council's new

Corporate Plan 2020-2023 and sought authority to proceed to public consultation following the Committee's meeting in November 2019.

Proposed by Councillor McLean
Seconded by Councillor Buchanan and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council that the Policy and Resources Committee is authorised to grant approval to proceed to draft Corporate Plan public consultation in November 2019.

PR170/19 Request to Illuminate Council Property

The Chief Executive presented previously circulated report which considered a request from Pancreatic Cancer Action UK to mark Pancreatic Cancer Awareness month by lighting up/illuminating the Burnavon, Cookstown and Ranfurly House, Dungannon on World Pancreatic Cancer Day - Thursday 21st November 2019. The Chief Executive stated that, although omitted from the report, the Bridewell in Magherafelt is also usually included in such lighting up events and asked that this be included in the resolution, if Members were so minded.

Proposed by Councillor McFlynn
Seconded by Councillor McLean and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to light up Ranfurly House & Visitor Centre, Dungannon, the Burnavon Arts & Cultural Centre, Cookstown and the Bridewell, Magherafelt purple on the evening of Thursday 21st November 2019 for World Pancreatic Cancer Day.

PR171/19 Elected Member Development Working Group

The Chief Executive presented previously circulated report which considered the report of a meeting of the Elected Member Development Working Group held on 5 September 2019.

The Chief Executive stated that, following on from tonight's Elected Member Working Group, there had been discussion in relation to the scheduling of development activities and that Members would also like such activities programmed on a Saturday. The Chief Executive also advised that there was an error within the Member Personal Development Plan previously circulated and that an updated version would be issued to Members.

Proposed by Councillor Doris
Seconded by Councillor McFlynn and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council –
(I) To approve the report of the Elected Member Development Steering Group meeting held on Thursday 5 September 2019;
(II) To approve the recommendations to proceed with Personal Development Plans/Training Plan for Council term;

- (III) To consider revision of Members ICT allowance allocation through Policy & Resources Committee

PR172/19 Lease and Licence of Lands Situated at Glenone Wood, Portglenone from DAERA/Forest Service

The Council Solicitor presented previously circulated report which sought approval to enter into the lease and licence with DAERA/Forest Service in relation to lands situated at Glenone Wood, Portglenone.

Councillor S McPeake stated it was outstanding that issues had now been resolved and he expressed his thanks to officers, particularly the Director of Business and Communities, the Director of Leisure and Outdoor Recreation and the Head of Parks for the protracted amount of work done with Forest Service in bringing forward a great result.

Proposed by Councillor S McPeake
Seconded by Councillor McFlynn and

- Resolved** That it be recommended to Council that -
- (I) The Council enters in to the 20 year Lease Agreement with DAERA/Forest Service in respect of Lands situated at Glenone Wood on the terms outlined, with an annual rent of £500; and
 - (II) The Council enters into a Licence with DAERA/Forest Service in respect of Lands situated at Glenone Wood on the terms outlined.

PR173/19 Village Renewal Scheme: Rural Development Programme 2014-2020 - Lease of Lands situated at Somme Park, Killyman

The Council Solicitor presented previously circulated report which provided update on an element of the Village Renewal Scheme included within the Rural Development Programme 2014-2020 and sought approval to proceed with a lease arrangement regarding lands situated at Somme Park, Killyman.

In response to question from the Chair, the Council Solicitor confirmed that the £5,000 premium was a one off cost.

Councillor Ashton asked if this was normal procedure.

The Council Solicitor stated that NIHE have recently changed their approach and are now more commonly only entering into short term leases or transfers. The Council Solicitor stated that there has also been a change in the NIHE valuations of property/land.

Councillor S McGuigan referred to lease being backdated to 2000 and asked would it not have been enough to backdate the lease for 7 years in order to satisfy funding requirements and then go forward for 19 years.

The Council Solicitor stated that the requirement to backdate the lease to 2000 came from NIHE as this was the time Council took possession of the land.

Proposed by Councillor Ashton
Seconded by Councillor S McGuigan and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to enter into a Lease with NIHE in relation to lands situated at Somme Park, Killyman, for a period of 26 years backdated to 2000 and at a premium of £5,000.

Matters for Information

PR174/19 Minutes of Policy and Resources Committee held on Thursday 5 September 2019

Members noted Minutes of Policy and Resources Committee held on Thursday 5 September 2019.

Councillor S McPeake spoke in relation to item PR146/19 of the minutes and stated that, despite a decision being taken to dispose of lands to NIHE, NIHE may not now want to proceed with the transfer.

Local Government (NI) Act 2014 – Confidential Business

Proposed by Councillor S McGuigan
Seconded by Councillor Colvin and

Resolved In accordance with Section 42, Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (NI) 2014 that Members of the public be asked to withdraw from the meeting whilst Members consider items PR175/19 to PR184/19.

Matters for Decision

- PR175/19 Staff Matters for Decision
- PR176/19 Dungannon Leisure Centre Repairs – Update
- PR177/19 Maghera Development Opportunity – Additional Land
- PR178/19 Gortgonis Leisure and Community Health Hub
- PR179/19 Land and Property Services' Consultation re Non-Domestic Revaluation 2020
- PR180/19 Request to use Council Property for Polling Place

Matters for Information

- PR181/19 Confidential Minutes of Policy and Resources Committee held on Thursday 5 September 2019
- PR182/19 Staff Matters for Information
- PR183/19 Financial Report for 5 months ended 31 August 2019
- PR184/19 Contracts and DAC

PR185/19 Duration of Meeting

The commenced at 7pm and concluded at 7.45 pm.

Chair _____

Date _____