

**Minutes of Meeting of Mid Ulster District Council held on Thursday 28 June 2018
in the Council Offices, Circular Road, Dungannon**

Chair: Councillor McPeake

Members Present: Councillors Ashton, Bell, Buchanan, Burton, Clarke, Cuddy, Cuthbertson, Doris, Elattar, Gillespie, Kearney, Mallaghan, McAleer, McEldowney, McFlynn, McGinley, B McGuigan, S McGuigan, McKinney, McLean, McNamee, Milne, Molloy, Mullen, Mulligan, J O'Neill, M Quinn, T Quinn, G Shiels, Totten and Wilson

Officers in Attendance: Mr Tohill, Chief Executive
Ms Anne Marie Campbell, Director of Leisure & Outdoor Rec.
Ms Canavan, Director of Organisational Development
Mr Kelso, Director of Public Health & Infrastructure
Mr McCreesh, Director of Business & Communities
Ms Mezza, Head of Marketing & Communications
Mr P Moffett, Head of Democratic Services
Mr JJ Tohill, Director of Finance
Mrs Forde, Member Support Officer

Others in Attendance: Deputation - Dfl Roads

Mr C Loughrey, Western Divisional Manager

The meeting commenced at 7pm

C130/18 Apologies

Councillor Bateson, Forde, Gildernew, Glasgow Monteith, Reid, Robinson and J Shiels

C131/18 Chair's Business

None

C132/18 Declarations of Interest

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

C133/18 Deputation – Dfl Roads

The Chair, Councillor McPeake welcomed Mr Conor Loughrey, Western Divisional Manager Roads to the meeting. Mr Loughrey presented the previously circulated Dfl Roads Western Division Spring Report. He drew attention to major issues such as the A5 being subject to a Judicial Review with a hearing scheduled for September, the progress on the A29 Cookstown Bypass scheme, capital funding, current funding levels which would allow cutting on grass verges twice between April and October. He

also referred to recent DEA meetings and circulated Member query forms for Members to complete if they had local issues to raise.

Councillor O'Neill entered the meeting at 7.04pm

The Chair, Councillor McPeake thanked Mr Loughrey for the presentation and sought Members questions.

Councillor Mulligan referred to Turbary Bridge, Newtownsaville Road, which had suffered flood damage in June and asked for a timeframe in which it would be dealt with.

Councillor B McGuigan asked in relation aforementioned DEA meetings when Members would receive feedback on the issues raised. He highlighted he had brought forward a number of issues but had only received feedback on one in relation to street lighting.

Councillor Wilson referred to the 'Gas to the West' project and NI Water's ongoing works and what the linkage there was with DfI Roads, highlighting that the roads were becoming 'higgledy piggledy' especially the Lissan Road on which vibrations could be felt in houses.

In response, Mr Loughrey advised Councillor Mulligan that bridge works took longer than other roads maintenance and that he would report back directly.

In response to Councillor B McGuigan regarding lack of feedback he acknowledged the comment had been made the previous year and thus he would be managing the issue sheets through his own office. He further advised he would pass on comments regarding DEA meetings as his expectation was a response should be received by Members.

In response to Councillor Wilson Mr Loughrey stated a lot was happening in relation to utility works and DfI Roads role was to facilitate it and often had to opt for the 'least worst solution'. He advised there were regular meetings to discuss these issues and an aim to progress work in the summer months when schools were off, the evenings were long and there was less traffic on the roads.

Councillor McLean drew attention to the additional funding highlighted in the report and asked how DfI Roads assessed priority works.

Councillor Cuthbertson on behalf of Councillor Robinson drew attention to Turbary Bridge and highlighted that the night of the flood the Member had telephoned the emergency DfI Roads number to be told the matter should be reported to the PSNI.

Councillor Gillespie sought an update in relation to a blanket 20mph speed limit at primary schools.

In response to Councillor McLean's question Mr Loughrey stressed that there were more schemes than there was money for and advised that DfI looked at the state of

the road, costs of patching and cost of resurfacing then decided accordingly. He further advised that Councillor and public lobbying also impacted such decisions.

With regard to the issue of reporting flood damage at Turbury Bridge he advised that the call should come through DfI Roads and he had had a number of comments regarding the service and would look into it.

In response to Councillor Gillespie's comments on 20mph speed limit at schools Mr Loughrey advised there was a 'Safer Routes to Schools' campaign but a change to a blanket ban would require to be made by Ministerial level. He stated, if there were particular schools he would investigate possibilities.

Councillor Gillespie stated that the speed limit was crucial at times when children are going to and from school and highlighted it did happen in some locations.

The Chair, Councillor McPeake sought clarity as to whether it could happen at some places. In response, Mr Loughrey said that if Members put relevant schools on the 'request forms' he would investigate them under the 'Safer Routes to Schools' campaign.

Mr Loughrey thanked Members for the opportunity to present the report and withdrew from the meeting at 7.15pm.

Matters for Decision

C134/18 Receive and Consider Minutes of matters transacted in "Open Business" at the Council meeting held on Thursday 24 May 2018

Proposed by Councillor S McGuigan
Seconded by Councillor O'Neill and

Resolved: That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on Thursday 24 May 2018 (C102/18 – C118/18 and C129/18) transacted in Open Business having been printed and circulated were considered and adopted.

In response to Councillor Mallaghan's enquiry regarding the issue raised at May meeting in relation to an airborne (helicopter) survey over Cookstown and Moneymore area the Chief Executive advised that Council had made contact with the Department for the Economy and had received a response following the issue of papers. He advised that the Department had noted Council's disappointment and had indicated they would be happy to meet with Councillors and officials to explain the process.

Resolved That a meeting be organised with the Department for the Economy in relation to Mineral Prospecting Process and licence operations.

C135/18 Receive and Consider Minutes of matters transacted in "Open Business" at the Annual Council meeting held on Monday 4 June 2018

Proposed by Councillor S McGuigan
Seconded by Councillor McNamee and

Resolved That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Annual Council held on Monday 4 June 2018 (AC1/18 – AC12/18) transacted in Open Business having been printed and circulated were considered and adopted.

C136/18 Receive and Consider Minutes of matters transacted in “Open Business” at the Planning Committee meeting held on Tuesday 5 June 2018

Proposed by Councillor Mallaghan
Seconded by Councillor McKinney and

Resolved That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Planning Committee held on Tuesday 5 June 2018 (P075/18 – P082/18 and P088/18) transacted in “Open Business” having been printed and circulated, subject to the foregoing were considered and adopted.

C137/18 Receive and Consider Minutes of matters transacted in “Open Business” at the Policy and Resources meeting held on Thursday 7 June 2018

Proposed by Councillor McKinney
Seconded by Councillor Kearney and

Resolved: That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Policy & Resources Committee held on Thursday 7 June 2018 (PR121/18 – PR133/18 and PR149/18) transacted in “Open Business” having been printed and circulated and subject to the foregoing were considered and adopted.

C138/18 Receive and Consider Minutes of matters transacted in “Open Business” at the Environment Committee held on Tuesday 12 June 2018

Councillor B McGuigan drew attention to *E185/18 Street Naming and Dual Language Signage* and advised that since the recommendation at committee further information had become available. He proposed to approve the Environment Committee minutes with the exception of aforementioned item and that a meeting or a workshop is held with the Irish Language Officer in attendance to further discuss the layout of signage and a recommendation be brought to September Environment Committee. The Councillor stressed the importance of having the signage in the correct format for example for those with dyslexia and for the emergency services.

Councillor Cuthbertson stated he had been at the Environment Committee when the item had been discussed and had voted against the recommendation but asked how many times signage would have to be discussed stressing that at the meeting Members had been advised that the format was suitable for aforementioned groups.

The Chair, Councillor McPeake emphasised that the proposed changes was in relation to alignment.

Proposed by Councillor B McGuigan
Seconded by Councillor McNamee

That

- (i) with the exception of item E185/18 that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Environment Committee held on Tuesday 12 June 2018 (E170/18 – E184/18 and E186/18 - E195/18 and E206/18) transacted in “Open Business” having been printed and circulated were considered and adopted;
- (ii) *E185/18 Street Naming and Dual Language Signage* - Resolution is withheld and be discussed at a meeting/ workshop of relevant council officers, to include the Irish Language Officer, to discuss formatting of Dual Language Road Signage. The matter be further brought to the next available Environment Committee in September 2018

Councillor Cuthbertson stated that if guidance was being sought in relation to Irish language advice should be sought in relation to other languages, making reference to a recent recycling leaflet issued by Council in various languages.

Councillor B McGuigan stated that the matter being discussed was in relation to dual language signage.

The Chair, Councillor McPeake stated that the leaflets in various languages would be a matter for the bilingual working group.

The Chair, Councillor McPeake called for a vote on the proposal.

For	22
Against	10

Resolved That

- (i) with the exception of item E185/18 that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Environment Committee held on Tuesday 12 June 2018 (E170/18 – E184/18 and E186/18 - E195/18 and E206/18) transacted in “Open Business” having been printed and circulated were considered and adopted;
- (ii) *E185/18 Street Naming and Dual Language Signage* Resolution is withheld and be discussed at a meeting/ workshop of relevant council officers, to include the Irish Language Officer, to discuss formatting of Dual Language Road Signage. The matter to be further brought to the next available Environment Committee in September 2018

C139/18 Receive and Consider Minutes of matters transacted in “Open Business” at the Development Committee held on Thursday 14 June 2018

Proposed by Councillor McNamee
Seconded by Councillor Clarke and

Resolved: That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Development Committee held on Thursday 14 June 2018 (D115/18 – D133/18 and D137/18) transacted in “Open Business” having been printed and circulated were considered and adopted.

Councillor Burton drew attention to D118/18 Early Years project and emphasised the necessity of the project in the Clogher Valley area, which would provide much needed childcare places and requested that Council officers work with the group. In response, the Director of Business and Communities assured Members that the Community Development team had been working closely with the group to date and would continue to do so to materialise the investment in the Clogher Valley area.

C140/18 Conferences, Seminars & Training

The Head of Democratic Services sought approval for the undernoted for attendance of Councillors and Council Officers as outlined in the report, the payment of attendance fees and associated costs as incurred.

(i) Member Approvals

- **NILGA: Meaningful Collaboration: Real Impact, Seagoe Hotel, Craigavon,** Thursday 21 June 2018, 2pm – 4.30pm, No conference fee, travel and subsistence.
Retrospective approval for Cllrs Burton, Mulligan, McAleer & Reid Glasgow
- **World Canals Conference, Athlone,** Sunday 9th September to 12th September 2018, €455, plus accommodation, travel and subsistence
- **RTPI Introduction to the Planning System, Belfast,** Wednesday 5 December 9.30am to 4.30pm in the Mount Business & Conference Centre, 2 Woodstock Link, Belfast, Conference Cost £249 + VAT, travel and subsistence

Proposed by Councillor McKinney
Seconded by Councillor O'Neill and

Resolved: That the attendance of Members and Officers, the payment of attendance fees and associated costs as incurred be approved, as required for attendees.

C141/18 Consideration of Requests for Civic Recognition

The Head of Democratic Services referred Members to the previously circulated report and sought approval for requests for civic recognition from Members, in line with revised policy.

Proposed by Councillor McGinley
Seconded by Councillor Mallaghan and

Resolved: That approval be given to submitted requests for civic recognition as outlined in the report.

Matters for Information

C142/18 Consultations Notified to Mid Ulster District Council

The previously circulated report providing an update on consultations notified to Mid Ulster District Council since the last meeting of Council was presented to the meeting.

Resolved That Council note the consultations within the Consultations Report

C143/18 Correspondence to Council – June 2018

The previously circulated report to update the Council on correspondence received from two organisations was presented to Council, from:

- Campaigns Manager, Seafarers UK
- Lord Duncan, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for NI

Resolved: That Council note correspondence received.

C144/18 Notice of Motion

Councillor McAleer moved the motion

“That in the absence of a functioning government Mid Ulster Council write to Mr Jeremy Hunt, MP. Secretary of State for Health and Mr Richard Pengeely, Permanent Secretary, Department of Health to express our concerns that people with Cystic Fibrosis in Northern Ireland are greatly disadvantaged as they are unable to access Cystic Fibrosis drug ‘orkambi’ and other drugs and request a resolution to overcome this health inequality”

Councillor McAleer advised that cystic fibrosis is a genetic condition affecting 11,000 across the United Kingdom that one in 25 people carry the gene that leads to the condition and that carriers are often unaware. She drew attention to the fact that if both parents were carriers of the faulty gene their children would have a one in four chance of being born with the condition.

Councillor McAleer outlined the symptoms of cystic fibrosis explaining that the mucus is thicker in substance which leads to blocked tubes, trapped bacteria, infections requiring continuous antibiotics, breathing difficulties, organ defects, digestive enzymes are effected and medication in the form of CREON is needed with every meal even for babies. Daily physiotherapy is also required again even for babies.

Councillor McAleer advised that 'orkambi' is a medicine that would benefit 40% of people with CF in the United Kingdom, 111 of which reside in Northern Ireland. She advised that whilst current treatments treat the symptoms, 'orkambi' whilst not a cure slows down the decline in lung function and that it had received its European license in November 2015. It was noted that in June 2016 the National Institute of Health and Care Excellence (NICE) recognised 'orkambi' as an important treatment yet in Northern Ireland patients could not avail of the drug due to cost restrictions and lack of long term data. Councillor McAleer further advised that recent findings showed that 'orkambi' can reduce lung function decline by up to 42% and outlined how in April 2017 the government in the Republic of Ireland had negotiated a portfolio approach which guarantees access to 'orkambi' for those with Cystic fibrosis who could benefit. Councillor McAleer outlined that if a similar approach was adopted in Northern Ireland, future treatments could be accessed much faster and the costs of 'orkambi' could be reduced allowing for better fiscal planning and that although the Health and Social Care (NI) had expressed willingness to consider a portfolio approach formal negotiations may take some time.

Councillor McAleer shared that her own godchild had died in 2010 from the condition and that whilst the drug would not have helped her it would help many others. Expressing concern that the Cystic Fibrosis trust had campaigned for three years Councillor McAleer stated that a resolution was required and sought support for the motion.

Councillor McFlynn seconded the motion.

Councillor Elattar expressed her party's support for the motion and stated that she was sure it would receive unanimous support and outlined that the 'orkambi' drug attacked the cause of the disease and could increase life expectancy by ten years. She advised that the drug was available in the Republic of Ireland and many other countries and that its unavailability in the North was due to cost which should not be a barrier to a lifesaving drug.

Councillor McLean stated that the DUP supported the motion.

In response, Councillor McAleer thanked the parties for their support.

The Chair, Councillor McPeake called for a vote on the motion.

For	32
Against	0

The Chair, Councillor McPeake declared the motion carried.

Councillor Cuthbertson left the meeting at 7.35pm

C145/18 Notice of Motion

Councillor M Quinn thanked the Chair, Councillor McPeake for accepting the motion, as he had previously submitted it over a four-month period and now welcomed that the debate to go ahead.

He drew attention to the situation in Gaza stressing that it was difficult to know exactly what element to discuss posing the undernoted questions,

- Do I talk about the almost 2 million people being crammed into an area smaller not much bigger than the Dungannon area?
- Do I talk about how Gaza is effectively the world's biggest open air prison? That it is blocked by wire and barbed wire by land and blocked by a naval force from the sea.
- Do I talk about the limited electricity that Gaza has? How they only have it for few hours a day in which to run schools and hospitals?
- Do I talk about the 135 Palestinian people who have been killed in this conflict since Easter? Do talk about the 10s of thousands of people injured since Easter? Or that most of these people were injured while taking part in a peaceful protest?
- Do I try to humanise this debate in the form of Razan Najar, a 21-year-old doctor shot dead for the horrible crime of trying to help those injured by Israeli snipers from a few thousand meters away, on the other side of a barbwire fence?
- Do I talk about the complete lack of will demonstrated by those in the International community to find a solution to this conflict?

Stressing that supporting speakers may mention other incidents Councillor M Quinn drew attention to the BDS movement, why it is vital and why Council should consider adopting its campaigns.

He referred to the decision of the President of the USA, Donald Trump in moving the American Embassy to Jerusalem, claimed as the capital of both Palestine and Israel and emphasised that the USA was the only country in the world to do so and that even the UK government had condemned them for this action.

Councillor M Quinn stated that this move signalled the end to American neutrality in the Middle East and ended any prospect of peace. He referred also, to how he watched in horror as America blocked any independent investigation by the UN into the killing of protesters again something that even the British Government condemned which was ironic given their on-going role in the north.

Councillor M Quinn stated that as the International community appeared to be both unwilling and unable to find a peace deal in the Middle East then it was up to ordinary citizens to do something. He spoke of meeting different men and women who have risked their lives bringing aid to Gaza and whilst it was a great thing to do it was only a sticking plaster to the conflict and stressed that a peaceful solution was required. He advised that Israel time and time again had ignored UN sanctions on their actions in Gaza. He highlighted that their actions included stealing land and driving out those who live there, shooting dead innocent civilians, bombing schools and hospitals. He

stressed his words were not a slight on the Israeli people but on the actions of their Government.

Councillor M Quinn spoke of the absence of the Assembly and thus it was up to Council to take action on behalf of our citizens. He spoke of local support for Palestine highlighted in a recent petition handed over by the GAA with 1000s of local people wanting to right to show solidarity with Palestine through waving a flag. He stated that it was his belief that the best way Council could help bring an end to the conflict is to support the BDS campaign which is supported by millions right across the world and aims to bring a peaceful end by bringing pressure on the Israeli Government through various campaigns that include boycotting food, clothes, equipment that provide financial support to the Israeli government.

Councillor M Quinn requested Members to recall the name Mary Manning and the other Dunnes Stores employees that went on strike after Mary was sacked for refusing to sell oranges from South Africa who at the time were an apartheid government. He advised that these people had made a difference, he recalled how America had assisted in finding peace in Northern Ireland, he advised that a local man as an honorary citizen of Gaza and that locally there had been protests about the situation.

In conclusion, Councillor M Quinn sought support for people who cannot help themselves and tabled an amendment for the motion as undernoted.

“That this Council notes with grave concern the rising death toll in Palestine, as well as the hundreds wounded at the Gaza-Israeli Border over recent weeks which has severely heightened tensions in the Middle-East:

- *affirms its support for a peaceful end to the Israel/Palestine conflict;*
- *notes the ongoing Boycott, Divestment, Sanctions (BDS) Campaign; and*
- *will investigate the most practical means of implementing the BDS campaign”*

Councillor Kearney seconded the motion highlighting that other motions being moved highlighted the plight of both young and old who are disadvantaged and drew the similarity with the Palestinian people who had been abandoned by the West. He highlighted that local people in Mid Ulster were concerned about the situation and had no one to turn to but the Council.

The Chair, Councillor McPeake clarified that the amendment to the motion as outlined by Councillor M Quinn was accepted.

Councillor McGinley advised that Sinn Féin were in favour of the motion and highlighted that many local people had expressed outrage through protests and social media campaigns and had invited local representatives to attend. He stressed that the situation in Gaza became more desperate each day and drew attention to 350 children being held in an Israeli prison, peaceful Palestinians being fired upon, 13 people under the age of 18 killed one being a young baby actions which are nothing short of a massacre and that Israel must be held to task for. He highlighted the fact that the restrictive measures Palestinians were subjected to had been described by Amnesty International as crisis such as economic suffocation, disastrous living standards, electricity shortages, medical supplies not being allowed in, the Councillor

further highlighted that in the past six months three hospitals had to close and that the World Health Organisation had highlighted that 50 patients had died as a result of having to move hospitals. In conclusion, Councillor McGinley stated that Council should support the BDS campaign to end conflict.

Councillor Wilson stated that he found the motion frustrating as neither he nor Councillor M Quinn were elected to Council because of their views on the Middle East. He emphasised that there were many strongly held views on this conflict within Northern Ireland that some supported Palestine whilst others supported Israel. He emphasised that some in Northern Ireland see Israel as the only true democracy in the Middle East where Christian communities were growing, women's rights were respected and where there is free press and independent courts. He stated that a resolution by Council to impose boycotts against Israeli Jews on the grounds of their nationality, faith or political viewpoint was nothing short of abhorrent. He stated that if a motion was brought in relation to Turkish occupation of northern Cyprus or that Chinese restaurants should be boycotted because of Chinese occupation of Tibet they would be correctly condemned as being racist yet it was being deemed acceptable for progressive parties to turn a blind eye when Israeli Jewish stalls are picketed in shopping centres and businesses attacked because they stock Israeli goods. He highlighted an incident at the Linen Hall library earlier in the year when staff were intimidated for hosting an Israeli event and asked if this would be condemned.

Councillor Wilson stated that all would agree on the aspiration for a peaceful Middle East but the reality is that the motion was requesting council to single out Israeli Jews, their businesses and culture for boycott and exclusion as a means of achieving peace. He stressed that as local politicians actions can influence community relations, he highlighted attacks on Northern Ireland's only synagogue and his concern when a representative of the Northern Ireland Jewish Community told him he found the motion threatening and discriminatory. Councillor Wilson asked Councillor M Quinn if he had researched the impact of the motion on the Israeli Jewish community and indeed local community relations and what extent support of the motion would have for example if Israeli firms tendered for Council business would they be accepted. He also reflected on the Hamas terrorist organisation and its support for BDS.

Councillor Wilson stated that the motion was political grandstanding and requested that Councillor M Quinn withdraw the motion and permit Council to do what it was elected to do.

Councillor McLean speaking on the motion stated that it was in breach of 16.1 of standing orders and emphasised that whilst in the Chair Councillor Ashton had twice ruled the motion out from debate. He concurred with comments made by Councillor Wilson and stated that the issue would do more to divide Mid Ulster and since Council had no jurisdiction for the area in question requested that the motion be withdrawn.

In response to comments, Councillor M Quinn stated he had condemned any attacks on Jewish owned businesses and properties and had talked to the Jewish community. He stated that he had liaised with them whilst involved in the Student Union and had many Jewish friends. He stated that the motion was not against a community but a government who was flouting international laws. He stated that the land had been taken off the Palestinian people and many in the Chamber would feel the same if land

was taken from them. He advised that the BDS was many campaigns gathered into one and that he was not calling for discrimination but action to put pressure on a government slaughtering hundreds of people. Councillor M Quinn stated that Irish and British people had a history of standing up for people who were unable to stand up for themselves and advised that following the aforementioned employees of Dunnes Stores campaign Nelson Mandela had met the ten people who had gone on strike. He stressed he was not a supporter of rocket attacks on Israel nor of Hamas and concluded that he would not withdraw the motion.

The Chair, Councillor McPeake called for a vote on the motion

For	22
Against	9

The Chair, Councillor McPeake declared the motion carried.

C146/18 Notice of Motion

Councillor G Shiels drew attention to the motion as undernoted:

“That this council makes representations to the Home Secretary, Sajid Javid MP expressing support for Charlotte Caldwell from Castlederg in her ongoing battle to secure the best possible treatment for her son Billy. Believes that it should not have taken the suffering of a 12-year-old child and obvious distress of his mother to put the use of medicinal cannabis in controlled and tightly regulated circumstances at the centre of a long-overdue national debate.

That we agree that the use of cannabis oil for strictly medicinal purposes is a health issue and not a misuse of drugs issue and therefore consider the seizure of essential clinically prescribed medication at Heathrow Airport to have been a cruel and abhorrent act.

We support her pleas to allow medicinal cannabis oil to be administered to Billy and we further support the family in their need for a continuing supply of the oil in perpetuity once the remainder of the supply granted under the Home Office’s temporary licence has been exhausted. We also express our deep concern at the manner in which the family’s GP was summoned by officials to a meeting in Belfast, shrouded in secrecy and totally void of any political or democratic accountability, and instructed to no longer issue any further prescriptions.

Furthermore that this Council writes to Her Majesty’s Government urging them to initiate a series of independent trials and conduct evidence-based research in order to assist them to make a permanent, positive and hopefully compassionate decision on the future use of medicinal cannabis oil.”

Councillor G Shiels stated that there were those reluctant to use something derived from such a notorious substance but stressed that surely using something good derived from something bad is the very essence of Homeopathy. He stated that reluctance could be countered with the fact that a legal drug supplied on prescription regularly to millions, that is, Opiod derived from Heroin. He drew attention to

Tramadol stating that it was well documented for its addictive properties but used properly had helped many, himself included.

Councillor G Shiels posed the question as to why the Minister does not shrink from Departmental complicity in the use of medicines derived from the same root genesis as Heroin, whilst having seemingly grave reservations in the case of medical cannabis oil derived arguable from a less potent source. Drawing particular attention to Billy's case he stated that the evidence for the benefits of the revolutionary treatment was overwhelming and that the backing of the GP who originally prescribed the medication should be an influencing factor. He stated that there are many forms of neurological disorders and each manifests itself in a variety of ways from patient to patient, thus there was no panacea. Councillor G Shiels stressed it was not the role of Council, nor the government Minister to give false hope to those living with a neurological disorder but neither was it the role of a Minister to remove an outstandingly successful medication, with apparently no reason leaving a young boy with no effective medication and no hope.

Councillor G Shiels stated that the law was the law but in this instance the majority of politicians and healthcare professionals across the country believe that the 'law is an ass.' He continued stating that the government was guilty of double standards and it is soft on the rule of law on the street where illegal drug both 'taking and pushing' was rampant yet the Home Office exercised full rigour of the law in the case of Billy Caldwell, a most unwell child of twelve.

In conclusion, Councillor G Shiels stated he would caution that care must be taken to fully research the claims made in relation to the benefits of cannabis oil but that in Billy's case it was proven to have helped greatly. Councillor G Shiels called for support of the motion.

Councillor McKinney seconded the motion.

Councillor Doris stated that Sinn Féin would support the motion and had and would continue to support Billy and his family. She took the opportunity to thank the former Minister for Health, Michelle O'Neill in her support for Billy.

Councillor McFlynn stated that the SDLP would support the motion and ongoing research, as the drug could also be used to help people diagnosed with Parkinson's.

Councillor McLean stated that initially the DUP had been cautious but given that Councillor G Shiels was stressing the need for more research they too would support the motion.

In response, Councillor G Shiels stated that he was delighted with the support.

The Chair, Councillor McPeake called for a vote.

For	31
Against	0

The Chair, Councillor McPeake declared the motion carried.

Councillor McEldowney left the meeting at 8.09 pm.

C147/18 Notice of Motion

Councillors Mallaghan, Mullen and Reid to move. Councillor Mallaghan read the undernoted motion

“That this Council recognises the work of the PCSP, Council Officers and PSNI in their efforts to ensure the Cookstown Night Time Economy is successful and safe for the public.

That the council works with the PSNI so that our car park in Loy Street is made available for coach parking on Monday Nights alleviating disturbance after night clubs have closed. That council make an exception to its current policy on car parks to facilitate this at busy times of the year”.

Councillor Mallaghan stated that the wording of the motion was succinct and advised that following discussion at the PCSP meeting the advice was that the car park aforementioned being open would make the management of the situation which arises as aforementioned more effective.

Councillor Mullen seconded the motion.

Councillor Wilson supported the motion emphasising that action was needed and advised he had met with local residents and that the behaviour on the night in question had been shocking, buses had also leaked oil all over the footpaths and that ultimately whilst the buses needed to be relocated the people still had to reach them.

Councillor Buchanan also supported the motion and stated that greater policing was needed and also stated that the matter should be discussed at the Environment Committee.

Councillor McEldowney returned to the meeting at 8.11pm

Councillor McFlynn supported the motion and stated that on Monday 2 July a popular DJ was performing at the venue and in order to avoid further disruption the car park needed to be open.

The Chair, Councillor McPeake sought clarity as to whether Councillor Buchanan’s suggestion to refer the matter back to committee was an amendment to the motion.

In response, Councillor McLean stated the DUP had no issue with the motion but it was merely that the out-workings of the request are brought to Committee.

The Chair, Councillor McPeake advised he had been at the PCSP meeting and that it was thought better to bring to Council.

In response, Councillor Mallaghan thanked Members for their support and emphasised that in the past the use of the car park for buses had improved the situation.

The Chair, Councillor McPeake put the motion to a vote.

For	31
Against	0

The Chair, Councillor McPeake declared the motion carried.

Councillor Mallaghan left the meeting at 8.15pm

C148/18 Notice of Motion

Councillor Cuddy drew attention to the undernoted motion:

Dungannon is the largest & fastest growing town in the Mid Ulster District. Dungannon is known for its Industry, Commerce, Educational and Sporting achievements both regionally and internationally. The most serious issue preventing further sustainable growth is the very poor road infrastructure in and around the town. This has been highlighted in previous Dungannon Area Plans but nothing has been done about it. No progress at all has been made. Dungannon DEA Councillors request Mid Ulster Council to prioritise a new bypass plan to replace the existing A29 road route which runs through the centre of Dungannon town. By firstly, identifying and protecting a clear route for this new network road within an agreed timetable, then actively lobbying central government to commit to this project at the earliest possible stage as funding becomes available.

Councillor Burton left the meeting at 8.16pm

Councillor Cuddy highlighted the Magherafelt bypass, which now completed had proved very successful, he also drew attention to the fact that progress was being made on the Cookstown bypass project and hopefully in the next few years would lead to better connections between the districts main towns. Councillor Cuddy stated that Dungannon was 'crying out' for improvements and emphasised the need for a bypass as highlighted in the motion.

Councillor Wilson seconded the motion.

Councillor Molloy supported the motion and advised that a route was identified in previous years but this may now need to be reconsidered but emphasised the importance of identifying and protecting a route.

Councillor Ashton stressed the importance of Council support for the motion stating that the area was thriving economically and thus supporting infrastructure was vital.

Councillor M Quinn advised that the SDLP would support the motion.

In response, Councillor Cuddy thanked the parties for their support concurring with Councillor Molloy that a route needed to be identified and protected.

The Chair, Councillor McPeake called for a vote

For	30
Against	0

The Chair, Councillor McPeake declared the motion carried.

C149/18 Notice of Motion

Councillor S McGuigan moved the motion as undernoted.

“That this Council supports paragraph 49 of the agreed Joint Report of December 2017 which is an approach that will ensure that there is no hardening of the border in Ireland and wants to see the ‘backstop’ option as defined in paragraph 49 included in the legally binding withdrawal Agreement. In addition, this Council wants the full EU rights of citizens protected as proposed in the current draft Withdrawal Agreement”.

Councillor S McGuigan stated that yet again a crucial phase of the Brexit negotiations was progressing with a final Withdrawal Agreement to be approved in October 2018. He advised that whilst the British Government continue to push contradictory positions and state they do not wish to have a hard border the ‘line in the sand’ indicates that that is what the negotiations will deliver.

He referred to Paragraph 49 of the agreed Joint Report in particular the ‘backstop’ solution and stated that with no other solutions available this must come into play. He further stated that the backstop would not resolve all the problems and stressed that Sinn Féin would continue to push for alignment with the entire single market. Councillor McGuigan stated that it was important that the European Union hear from the people of the north and know that the view of the DUP is not everyone’s opinion. Councillor McGuigan also stated that he had previously sought an update in relation to Councils plans to protect the district from the effects of Brexit and that in order to do so Council should form a Brexit Working Group consisting of Councillors and Senior Officers.

Councillor McGinley seconded the motion.

Councillor Wilson stated the UUP respected the result of the majority who voted to leave and this is what would happen. He drew attention to the fact that the United Kingdom had the 5th largest economy in the world, that there could be no border up the Irish Sea and that the European Council were meeting today and thus anything decided at the Council meeting would be irrelevant and premature. He continued stating that the ‘backstop’ drives a thrust through the Belfast agreement, he stressed that ‘cool heads’ and a common sense approach was required and stated that as Unionists Brexit could not be used to isolate Northern Ireland from the rest of the United Kingdom.

Councillor Kearney stated that the EU summit today had been downgraded yet; he drew attention to the fact that it was two years since the referendum and six months since article 50 had been triggered. Councillor Kearney drew attention to the announcement earlier in the week that Airbus would pull out of the United Kingdom if

Brexit continues, 800 car workers jobs were in peril, the PSNI would need many more officers to deal with the issues and that ultimately this part of the world would lose much from Brexit yet appeared to have no say. He stated that Brexit had been described as the *"the undefined being negotiated by the unprepared in order to get the unspecified for the uninformed"*. In conclusion, he stated that the SDLP would support the motion.

Councillor McLean stated that the DUP would not support the motion and although they did not want a hard border, the motion was somewhat premature and concentrated on negativity. He emphasised that the world would not end at Brexit and members should remember why there was a border in the beginning.

Councillor S McGuigan welcomed that there was some positivity to the motion the essence of which was to look at the best interest of Mid Ulster. He stressed the need to look at possible scenarios and plan courses of action accordingly.

The Chair, Councillor McPeake clarified that the formation of the working group was an amendment to the motion.

The Chair, Councillor McPeake called for a vote on the motion with the amendment to convene a working group as undernoted:

"That this Council supports paragraph 49 of the agreed Joint Report of December 2017 which is an approach that will ensure that there is no hardening of the border in Ireland and wants to see the 'backstop' option as defined in paragraph 49 included in the legally binding withdrawal Agreement. In addition, this Council wants the full EU rights of citizens protected as proposed in the current draft Withdrawal Agreement. That this Council set up a Brexit Working Group made up of appointed Senior Managers and Members."

For	21
Against	8

The Chair, Councillor McPeake declared the motion carried.

The public and press left the meeting at 8.25 pm

Councillors McKinney and Mulligan left the meeting at 8.25 pm

Items restricted in accordance with Section 42, Part 1 of Local Government (NI) Act 2014 – Confidential Business

Proposed by Councillor S McGuigan
Seconded by Councillor McNamee and

Resolved: That items C150/18 – C157/18 be taken as confidential business.

Matters for Decision

- (i) Minutes taken as confidential business at the Audit meeting held on 22 May 2018
- (ii) Minutes taken as confidential business at the Council meeting held on Thursday 24 May 2018
- (iii) Minutes taken as confidential business at the Planning Committee held on Tuesday 5 June 2018
- (iv) Minutes taken as confidential business at the Policy and Resources Committee held on Thursday 7 June 2018
- (v) Minutes taken as confidential business at the Special Planning Committee held on Wednesday 11 June 2018
- (vi) Minutes taken as confidential business at the Environment Committee held on Tuesday 12 June 2018
- (vii) Minutes taken as confidential business at the Development Committee held on Thursday 14 June 2018

C158/18 Duration of Meeting

The meeting was called for 7pm and ended at 8.31pm

CHAIR _____

DATE _____