

Minutes of Meeting of the Development Committee of Mid Ulster District Council held on Thursday 15 February 2018 in the Council Offices, Ballyronan Road, Magherafelt

Members Present

Councillor Wilson, Chair

Councillors Burton (7.16 pm), Clarke, Cuddy, Doris, Elattar, Forde, McEldowney, McAleer, McFlynn, McNamee, Milne, Molloy (7.02 pm), G Shiels, Monteith (7.02 pm)

Officers in Attendance

Ms Campbell, Director of Leisure and Outdoor Recreation
Mr McCreesh, Director of Business and Communities
Mr Browne, Head of Tourism
Mr Liam Glavin, Head of Leisure
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 Grogan, Committee Services Officer

Meeting commenced at 7 pm.

D023/18 Apologies

None.

D024/18 Declaration of Interests

None.

D025/18 Chair's Business

None.

Matters for Decision

D026/18 Augher Riverside Walk Permissive Path Agreement

The Head of Parks drew attention to the previously circulated report to formalise and approve the creation of permissive path agreements to facilitate public access along the Blackwater, Augher Riverside Path.

Proposed by Councillor McAleer
Seconded by Councillor Cuddy and

Resolved: That it be recommended to the Council that approval be granted to enter into negotiations with identified landowners with the objective to create and agree terms for new public access agreements for

approximately one kilometre of public path. These agreements to be developed on the basis of standard Permissive Public Path Agreement

D027/18 Grant of Access at Portglenone Angling Facility

The Head of Parks drew attention to the previously circulated report to seek approval to establish partnership agreements between Ulster Coarse Fishing Federation UCFF and Mid Ulster District Council in relation to operational effectiveness of Portglenone Angling Amenity.

Councillor Milne declared an interest in Grant of Access at Portglenone Angling Facility.

Proposed by Councillor McFlynn
Seconded by Councillor McEldowney and

Resolved: That it be recommended to the Council that approval be granted to establish partnership arrangements between Ulster Coarse Fishing Federation UCFF and Mid Ulster District Council in relation to operational effectiveness of Portglenone Angling Amenity.

D028/18 Sports Representatives Grants Locations

Councillors Molloy and Monteith entered the meeting at 7.02 pm.

The Chair welcomed the Head of Leisure back to the Committee.

The Head of Leisure drew attention to the previously circulated report to present to members the proposed Grant Allocations for the range of Sports Representative Grants.

Proposed by Councillor McNamee
Seconded by Councillor Forde and

Resolved: That it be recommended to the Council that approval be granted for Sport Representatives Grant Allocations for two individual applications totalling £375.00.

D029/18 Outdoor Recreation NI Request for Funding For the Continuation of the MountainBikeNI Consortium

The Head of Leisure drew attention to the previously circulated report to seek a decision on continuing support for the financial year 2018/19 for the Outdoor Recreation Northern Ireland – led consortium of Councils with Mountain Biking facilities subject to agreement on budgets for next year.

Proposed by Councillor Molloy
Seconded by Councillor Cuddy and

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

- 1) Contribution of £16,666 to the MountainBikeNI consortium, subject to agreement on budgets for new year and subject to all other consortium Councils contributing. This will employ a Mountain Bike Marketing Officer for 2018/19 only and that the workings of the consortium to be reviewed for the following year.
- 2) Proceed with the advertising campaigns costing £8,575 over 2018/19 only again subject to agreement on budgets for next year and to Officers being satisfied with the value of the campaigns.
- 3) ORNI retendering the sponsorship contract to be in place from April 2018 for one year with a possible extension of another year.

D030/18 Improvement Works to St. Mary's Primary School and Bonn Cultural Association Pitches, Pomeroy

The Head of Leisure drew attention to the previously circulated report to update Members on the 3G Pitch installation at St Mary's Primary School, Pomeroy, to see, permission to fund maintenance and replacement carpet costs and to argue future management arrangements of the community use of the 3G pitch.

In response to the Chair's query regarding the ownership of the 3G Pitch, the Head of Leisure advised that the pitch would be run similar to the way other schools during school hours, but managed by the Community Association after hours.

The Director of Leisure and Outdoor Recreation advised that the lease agreement would be with the Education Authority, with the school being responsible for opening and closing the facility.

Councillor Molloy said that this was exactly what he wanted to see and that it was good to be seen utilising school facilities by the community.

Proposed by Councillor McNamee
Seconded by Councillor McFlynn and

Resolved: That it be recommended to the Council that approval be granted for Council to pay 50% of the ongoing annual maintenance costs of the 3G Pitch at St Mary's Primary School, Pomeroy and 50% of the replacement carpet costs in ten/twelve years.

D031/18 Economic Development Report

The Head of Economic Development drew attention to the previously circulated report to provide Members with an update on key activities as detailed below:

- 1) Cookstown & Magherafelt Town Centre Brand Refresh
- 2) Branded Jute Bags
- 3) Cookstown Wi-Fi Upgrade
- 4) Cookstown Continental Market

- 5) Cookstown Town Centre Forum Minutes
- 6) Coalisland Public Realm
- 7) International Women's Day Events (March 2018)
- 8) Strategic Review of Economic Development's Online Services to Businesses
- 9) Former High School Site, Maghera
- 10) ICBAN Funding Request 2018/19
- 11) Lower Power Wide Area Network (LPWAN) Bid
- 12) Hong Kong Trade Visit to Mid Ulster
- 13) Renewal of Membership with NI Chamber of Commerce
- 14) Renewal of Membership with Association of Town and CITY Management (ATCM)

Proposed by Councillor McNamee
 Seconded by Councillor McFlynn and

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

- 1) Cookstown & Magherafelt Town Centre Branch Refresh**
 Note the two updated brands developed for Cookstown and Magherafelt.
- 2) Branded Jute Bags**
 Note the progress towards preparation of tender documentation for joint procurement of jute bags to promote new/refreshed town brands, up to the value of £45,000.
- 3) Cookstown Wi-Fi Upgrade**
 Note progress towards a procurement exercise to upgrade wi-fi provision in Cookstown town centre at a cost circ. £20,000
- 4) Cookstown Continental Market**
 Note that Cookstown Continental Market to take place on Saturday 2 June and Sunday 3 June 2018 in William Street, Cookstown.
- 5) Cookstown Town Centre Forum Minutes**
 Note the Minutes of Cookstown Town Centre Forum dated 29 September 2017.
- 6) Coalisland Public Realm**
 Note progress.
- 7) International Women's Day Events (March 2018)**
 Note the dates of two events to celebrate International Women's Day in March 2018.
- 8) Strategic Review of Economic Development's Online Services to Businesses**
 Note the appointment of "Outside Looking In" at a cost of up to £9,600 (including expenses and excluding vat) to deliver a Strategic Review of

Economic Development's Online Services to Businesses to be completed by March 2018.

9) Former High School Site, Maghera

Note progress.

10) ICBAN Funding Request 2018/19

Agree allocation of funding to ICBAN of up to £12,500 from Council's Economic Development Budget 2018/19, to be paid in two equal instalments, subject to Council being provided with the requisite documentation (application form, confirmation of match funding, copies of accounts, insurances financial report and Progress Updates).

Agree the release of the first 50% payment once Council is in receipt of all documentation requested (previously outlined). Progress updates from ICBAN to be provided to future Development Committee meetings.

Proposed by Councillor McNamee
Seconded by Councillor McFlynn and

Resolved: Agreed.

11) LPWAN Bid (Low Power Wide Area Network)

Previously Council had committed 'in principle' to commit £10,000 towards the LPWAN project, but having considered the matters raised within the report, it is recommended that Council withdraw from the project.

Proposed by Councillor McNamee
Seconded by Councillor Cuddy and

Resolved: Agreed.

12) Hong Kong Trade Visit to Mid Ulster

Agree that Council, in association with Invest NI, host a Trade Visit for senior buyers from Hong Kong's agri-food sector to visit Mid Ulster and further approve a financial contribution of £10,000 from Council to Invest NI, to co-finance costs associated with the initiative from Council's Economic Development budget.

Councillor Cuddy enquired if it was the remit of the Council to bring representatives over from Hong Kong.

The Head of Economic Development advised that one of the representatives from Hong Kong had already visited CAFRE's Loughry Campus last year and the Council Chair had the opportunity to meet with them and was impressed with the work being undertaken.

The Chair said that although it was a good idea, he would be concerned about who would be running the event, as he would prefer the Council to take the lead on this with Invest NI assisting. He enquired how people were selected

as there were a lot of small businesses who didn't have the opportunity to exhibit i.e. Butchers Event in Belfast, due to the pricing model.

The Head of Economic Development advised that she'd attended two meetings with representatives from Invest NI and there was a willingness for this event to cater for both Invest NI and non Invest NI client companies from the agri-food sector. The latter grouping primarily consists of small indigenous businesses from across Mid Ulster.

She said that local agri-food companies have not been approached as yet, until Council had an opportunity to decide whether it wished to co-finance the project. If Council awarded funding towards the project, this will allow for a two day visit to Mid Ulster in April 2018. The first day will involve visits to a number of the large agri-food companies throughout the district and the second day for a Meet the Buyer event at Loughry Campus, where a wide range of agri-food companies of all sizes would have the opportunity to meet with senior buyers from Hong Kong.

Councillor Burton entered the meeting at 7.16 pm.

The Chair said that this was a good opportunity for the Council to showcase Mid Ulster and that this should be encouraged.

Councillor Molloy declared an interest in this item as he was an employee of the food sector.

Proposed by Councillor Cuddy
Seconded by Councillor Monteith and

Resolved: Agreed.

13) Renewal of Membership with NI Chamber of Commerce

Agree the renewal of Corporate Membership with NI Chamber of Commerce costing £2,500 with costs being met from Council's Economic Development budget.

Proposed by Councillor Cuddy
Seconded by Councillor Clarke and

Resolved: Agreed.

14) Renewal of Membership with Association of Town and City Management (ATCM)

Agree the renewal of Membership costing £495, with costs being met from Council's Economic Development budget.

Councillor Molloy requested a report be brought to a future meeting to provide members with an update on fibre availability/connectivity within Mid Ulster's five town centres.

Proposed by Councillor McFlynn
Seconded by Councillor McNamee and

Resolved: Agreed.

In response to Councillor McFlynn's query about branding for Magherafelt, the Head of Economic Development confirmed that Magherafelt's new brand was approved by Magherafelt Town Centre Forum and promotional merchandise is in production. She indicated the member may wish to raise the matter again at Magherafelt Town Centre Forum Meeting next week.

D032/18 Mid Ulster Rural Development Partnership

The Head of Economic Development presented previously circulated report to update Members on progress with the LAG Rural Development Strategy for Mid Ulster.

Councillors Clarke, Forde McEldowney, McAleer, G Sheils and Wilson (Chair) all declared an interest in the above item as members of LAG.

Councillor Clarke advised that Council's Rural Development Manager was currently off ill and may not be available for quite some time, but felt that there was a need to put a structure in place as there was a small team of staff currently operating under pressure.

The Chair asked that best wishes from the Council be sent to the Rural Development Manager.

The Director of Business and Communities advised that two workshops scheduled for next week had been postponed and that the Head of Economic Development and he would monitor the situation over the next few days and put in place the appropriate measures to ensure service delivery continues.

Proposed by Councillor Monteith
Seconded by Councillor McFlynn and

Resolved: That it be recommended to the Council to approve the DAERA requirement for Council to act as the applicant on behalf of the LAG and accept letters of offer on behalf of the LAG for Co-operation projects. The LAG will act as co-signatory on Co-operation applications and letters of offer.

Councillor Cuddy enquired how much was left in Council's economic development budget for this financial year.

The Head of Economic Development advised that all spend was committed but some applicants were experiencing delays in commencing external works to their premises on the Village Spruce Up Scheme, due to very cold and wintry weather conditions and this was slowing claims being submitted for payment, and therefore slowing expected spend in quarter 4.

In response to Councillor Monteith's query regarding an update on Ann Street, the Director of Business and Communities advised that a meeting could be convened with DEA members, if they so wished.

Councillor Monteith stated that members were afraid to speak publicly regarding Ann Street and it was the worst kept secret. He said that this should be one of the best news stories relating to Dungannon and there was a need to get in front of this.

Agreed that a meeting be convened with Dungannon Town Councillors to provide a briefing on the Ann Street Development.

D033/18 Update on Match Funding Requests

The Head of Economic Development drew attention to the previously circulated report to provide an update to Members on match funding requests under European Social Fund (ESF) Programme Phase 2 (2018-22) and to consider financially supporting a new match funding request from Lough Neagh Partnership Ltd towards a Coalisland Great Places Project.

The Chair, Councillor Wilson declared an interest in Cookstown Enterprise Centre. Councillors Cuddy and Molloy declared an interest in Dungannon Enterprise Centre.

The report outlined that Enterprise NI's Exploring Enterprise 4 Programme was unsuccessful in obtaining ESF funding and therefore Council match funding was not necessary. However, on 14 February 2018, Enterprise NI advised that after their appeals process, the project has been awarded funding of £9,452 per annum for 4 years from 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2022 and therefore, it is recommended that Council reaffirm its funding commitment towards the project.

Councillor Cuddy referred to the map relating to the Coalisland Great Places Project and advised that the perimeter of the map excluded Newmills village and requested this be included as part of the eligible area.

The Head of Economic Development said that she would request for Newmills to be included.

Proposed by Councillor Clarke
Seconded by Councillor McFlynn

Resolved: That it be recommended to Council that approval be given to:

- 1) Noting the contents of the report.
- 2) Noting the current funding status of Programmes under the ESF Phase 2 (2018-22) and financial commitments previously agreed by Council in September 2017. Recommended also to reaffirm Council's support towards the Exploring Enterprise Programme of £9,452 per annum for 4

years from 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2022, now that the project promoter has won their appeal and secured ESF match funding.

- 3) Not approving the match funding request under ESF Phase 2 (2018-22) for the Workforce IV Programme for the reasons outlined in the report.
- 4) Not approving the match funding request under ESF Phase 2 (2018-22) for the STRIDE Programme for the reasons outlined in the report.
- 5) A financial commitment of up to £10,000 per annum (over a 3 year period) to Lough Neagh Partnership Ltd towards the Coalisland Great Places Project, subject to the inclusion of Newmills village within the eligible project boundary area.
- 6) Noting map of the Coalisland Great Places Project boundary.

Councillor Molloy referred to the study tour last week to the two Catapult Centres in conjunction with South West College and said that although members had to use their personal allowance to take part in this, it proved very productive and educational and will benefit both Council and the College. He asked that a report be prepared for a future meeting to update Members on the study visit and document how the findings may impact upon the current plans to develop an Engineering Centre of Excellence in Dungannon.

In response to Councillor Cuddy's query about South West College potentially requiring the top car park at the Dungannon Offices, the Director of Business and Communities advised that the College were reconsidering options and a report would be brought back once a decision has been made.

D034/18 Community Development Report

The Head of Community Development drew attention to the previously circulated report to:

- 1) Seek Committee approval for Good Relations and Community Festivals rolling grant award recommendations
- 2) Agree the Peace IV Partnership recommendations
- 3) Approve the Peace IV Heritage tender award (report not complete, to be presented later).
- 4) Approve the proposed Good Relations Plan 2018-2019 for submission to the NI Executive Office under TBUC for funding and delivery at a local level
- 5) Approve the Mid Ulster Advice Provision year 3
- 6) Update on Community Development

Resolved: That it be recommended to the Council that approval be given to:

- 1) Grant award recommendations under the Community Local Festivals Grants and Good Relations Grant as per Appendix 1 £4,688 and £200.

Proposed by Councillor Forde
Seconded by Councillor McNamee and

Resolved: Agreed.

- 2) Peace IV Partnership recommendation of the Shared Space Arts and Events Peace IV Programme summary specification to go to tender.

Proposed by Councillor McFlynn
Seconded by Councillor Molloy and

Resolved: Agreed.

- 3) Peace IV Heritage Programme Tender Award (to be presented later)

Resolved: Agreed.

- 4) Proposed Good Relations Plan 2018-2019 for submission to the NI Executive Office under TBUV for funding and delivery at a local level.

Councillor Doris referred to the issue of Bonfires and advised that the report was should be included.

The Head of Community Development confirmed that the issue was included at Safe Communities and would work in partnership with PCSP.

Proposed by Councillor McFlynn
Seconded by Councillor Cuddy and

Resolved: Agreed.

- 5) Renewal of the Advice Contract with CAMU for a third year.
Allocation of monies from DfC for Welfare Reform Support Project to the value of £51,891.36 to CAMU.

Proposed by Councillor Forde
Seconded by Councillor Cuddy and

Resolved: Agreed.

- 6) Note the Community Development Update Report.

Resolved: Agreed

Matters for Information

**D035/18 Development Committee Minutes of Meeting held on Wednesday
10 January 2018**

Members noted Minutes of Development Committee held on Wednesday 10 January 2018.

**D036/18 Regional and Minority Language Implementation Working Group
Minutes of Meeting 15 January 2018**

Members noted Minutes of the Regional and Minority Language Implementation Working Group held on 15 January 2018.

D037/18 Disability Arts Project – Kilronan Special School, Magherafelt

Members noted plans to deliver a Disability Arts Project as part of the Culture & Arts Programme of activity, in conjunction with Kilronan Special School Magherafelt.

D038/18 Davagh Forest Observatory/Visitor Centre Update

Members noted progress of the Davagh Forest Observatory and Visitor Centre project.

**D039/18 The Heart of Ancient Ulster Landscape Partnership Scheme
(THoAULP) – Update on Community Consultations**

Members noted update on the Heart of Ancient Ulster Landscape Partnership Scheme. (THoAULP) and update on the The Heart of Ancient Ulster Landscape Partnership Scheme up to the end of January 2018.

D040/18 Tourism & Business Engagement Report

Members noted progress of the Business Engagement Programme and key activities in January 2018.

Local Government (NI) Act 2014 – Confidential Business

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 D041/18 to D042/18

Matters for Decision

D041/18 Proposal to Complete a Visitor Experience Audit & Interpretation Framework

Matters for Information

D042/18 Development Committee Confidential Minutes of Meeting held on 10 January 2018

D043/18 Condolences

Councillor Monteith referred to the recent passing of Gary Morris, employee of Dungannon Leisure Centre and advised that he was a valued member of staff. He said as a mark of respect a corporate response and the thoughts of this committee should be issued to his family.

D044/18 Duration of Meeting

The meeting was called for 7 pm and ended at 7.45 pm.

CHAIR _____

DATE _____