



04 December 2019

Dear Councillor

You are invited to attend a meeting of the Development Committee to be held in The Chamber, Magherafelt at Mid Ulster District Council, Ballyronan Road, MAGHERAFELT, BT45 6EN on Wednesday, 04 December 2019 at 19:00 to transact the business noted below.

Yours faithfully

Anthony Tohill  
Chief Executive

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## AGENDA

### OPEN BUSINESS

1. Apologies
2. Declarations of Interest  
Members should declare any financial and non-financial interests they have in the items of business for consideration, identifying the relevant agenda item and the nature of their interest.
3. Chair's Business
4. Deputation - Mid Ulster Women's Aid

### Matters for Decision

- |    |  |         |
|----|--|---------|
| 5. | Community Development Report                             | 3 - 8   |
| 6. | DAERA Rural Micro Business Small Grant Pilot Scheme      | 9 - 12  |
| 7. | Review of Facility Opening Hours within Leisure Services | 13 - 18 |
| 8. | Newferry to Toome Blueway Feasibility Study              | 19 - 24 |

### Matters for Information

- |    |   |         |
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| 9  | Minutes of Development Committee held on 14 November 2019       | 25 - 58 |
| 10 | Stone Mountain Highland Show and World Travel Market (WTM) 2019 | 59 - 64 |
| 11 | Town Centre Forum Meetings                                      | 65 - 82 |

**Items restricted in accordance with Section 42, Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (NI) 2014. The public will be asked to withdraw from the meeting at this point.**

#### Matters for Decision

12. Local Economic Development (LED) Measure of the EU Investment for Growth and Jobs Programme (IGJ) 2014-2020
13. Development of Gymnastics Programme & Implementation of Instructor Development Programme
14. Review of Leisure Membership Packages

#### Matters for Information

15. Confidential Minutes of Development Committee held on 14 November 2019
16. Update on Department for Communities Access and Inclusion Programme 2019/20
17. Mid South West Region Growth Deal Report

<b>Report on</b>	Community Development
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	4 <sup>th</sup> December 2019
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Claire Linney, Head of Community Development
<b>Contact Officer</b>	Philip Clarke Community Support, Oliver Morgan Good Relations & Peace, Michael McCrory PCSP

Is this report restricted for confidential business?	Yes	
If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	No	X

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To agree the rolling grant awards - Good Relations and Local Community Festivals
1.2	To agree the Peace IV Recommendations.
1.3	To note the update on Community Development.
2.0	Background
2.1	Community Grants – Council annually delivers two rolling community grants programmes; Good Relations and Local Community Festivals.
2.2	Peace IV Local Action Plan 2017 – 2020 and Partnership oversees the delivery of the Plan and recommendations to Council.
2.3	Community Development Update - An update is provided on the following areas: Community Support – Grants, Support, Village Planning, Community Centres, DFC Neighbourhood Renewal Peace IV and Good Relations including Decade of Anniversaries Programme PCSP
3.0	Main Report
3.1	Rolling Community Grants - Good Relations: 4 applications recommended for awards totalling £2,480 – one application did not meet the minimum score threshold with a further one application under the Decade of Anniversaries Programme recommended for £1,250. Community Local Festivals: 4 applications recommended for awards totalling £1,550 – one application did not meet the minimum score threshold. <b>Please refer to Appendix 1.</b>
3.2	Peace IV Partnership – Final design concepts have been provided based on the agreed concepts. It is proposed to proceed to ITT for delivery of the 6 village shared space schemes at a value of £700,000 (including £100,000 OB – optimism bias). Projects to commence on site March 2020.

3.3	<p>Community Development Update</p> <p><u>Community Support</u> Community support to groups across the District is ongoing. Meetings are continuing with members in DEAs to provide an update on village plans. Dates are being scheduled to suit member's diary.</p> <p>Neighbourhood Renewal: DFC projects for 2018 – 2019 are continuing to deliver. The Gortgonis project remains in development.</p> <p><u>Peace and Good Relations</u> Good Relations Action Plan 2018 – 2019 - Project development and delivery ongoing.</p> <p>Peace IV delivery is ongoing – All projects are delivering to target and timescale.</p> <p><u>PCSP</u> PCSP plan 2019 – 2020 is ongoing.</p> <p>CCTV for the town centres and for the park and ride provision is being delivered. An update is as follows: Town Centre CCTV – All areas connected to the Control Room (Magherafelt, Draperstown, Dungannon, Cookstown, Fivemiletown, Coalisland) are connected to control room as of end November. Town Centre CCTV network will be fully operational in all areas at the end of November. All cameras are currently recording 24/7.</p> <p>Park N Ride CCTV - Craigadick and Castledawson installation commenced due to complete end November. Tamnamore and Ballygawley to begin start of December and to be completed Mid December. All the installations depend on NIE keeping to schedule.</p>
4.0	<b>Other Considerations</b>
4.1	<p><b><u>Financial &amp; Human Resources Implications</u></b></p> <p>Community Grants awards – Good Relations (£2,480), Decade of Anniversaries £1,250 and Local Community Festivals (£1,550).</p> <p>Peace IV – Budget £600,000 - £700,000.</p> <p><b><u>Professional Support</u></b> None.</p>
4.2	<p><b><u>Equality and Good Relations Implications</u></b> None</p>

<b>4.3</b>	<b><u>Risk Management Implications</u></b> None
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Recommendation(s)</b>
5.1	To agree the rolling grant awards - Good Relations (£2,480) Decade of Anniversaries (£1,250) and Local Community Festivals (£1,550).
5.2	Peace IV project - to proceed to ITT for delivery of the 6 village shared space schemes at a value of £600,000 - £700,000 (including OB).
5.3	To note the update on Community Development.
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Documents Attached &amp; References</b>
6.1	Appendix 1 Good Relations and Local Community Festivals

## Appendix 1

### Decade of Anniversaries – December 2019

No	Organisation Name	Type of Event	Amount requested	Band	Award up to based on full expenditure	50% allocation – minimum spend vouched
1	The Regimental Association of the UDR	Commemorative	£2,500	6	£1,250	£2,500

### Good Relations – December 2019

No.	Organisation Name	Organisation Aim	Title Of Event/project	Band	Requested	Awarded
1	Glór Mhachaire Fíolta	Cultural	The Gaeltacht - A place for ALL	6	£2,850	£600
2	Nat. Autistic Society NI Dgn & Dist Branch	Charity	Christmas Wonderful Land	4	£1,330	£840
3	Orritor Street Cres Comm. Assoc.	Community	Orritor - A Place in Time	6	£1,200	£600
4	Sandholes Presbyterian Church	Community	Community Cookery Demonstration	5	£736	£440
						<b>£2,480</b>

### Unsuccessful

Magheraglass Womens Group	City Hall Belfast Visit 2019	Did not meet minimum threshold
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### Community Local Festivals – December 2019

No.	Organisation Name	Organisation Aim	Title Of Event/project	Band	Request	Award
1	Augher Clogher Cancer Focus NI	Community	Fundraising Events -Annual Community Carol Service & Pamper Pudding Evening	5	£295	£180
2	Derrylaughan GAC	Sporting	Christmas Show	5	£650	£390
3	Kilnaslee Com and Dev group	Community	Kilnaslee Christmas Social Event	6	£950	£480
4	Cúchulainn An Ghleanna Hurling/Cam	Sporting	Féile Cúchulainn (Winter Festival)	5	£1,000	£500
					<b>Total</b>	<b>£1,550</b>

### Unsuccessful

Termoneeny Running Club	Tedathon - Charity Festival	Did not meet minimum score threshold
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<b>Report on</b>	DAERA Rural Micro Business Small Grant Pilot Scheme
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	Wednesday 4th December 2019
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Fiona McKeown, Head of Economic Development

<b>Is this report restricted for confidential business?</b>	Yes	
If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	No	X

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	To provide Members with an update on the DAERA Rural Micro Business Small Grant Pilot Scheme.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	<p>The Rural Micro Business Small Grant Pilot Scheme is a pilot project funded by DAERA through the TRPSI (Tackling Rural Poverty and Social Isolation) Programme. It will focus on existing rural micro businesses employing less than 10 employees, offering 50% in grant aid against eligible costs up to £4,999 to support actions aimed at improving business sustainability and growth.</p> <p>The Scheme will operate across all rural areas of Northern Ireland and will be administered by local Councils. Council will be responsible for issuing letters of offer to successful applicants under this scheme but DAERA will be responsible for the payment of all grant aid approved. There is no match fund requirement from Council.</p> <p>The overall budget available for this pilot is relatively small at £500,000 in total across all Councils participating. This equates to a project budget of approximately £50,000 for Mid Ulster to support a target of 10 rural micro businesses.</p> <p>An administration budget of up to £7,847 will be paid to Council for associated administrative duties (or 15% of the grant allocation committed and spent)</p>
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Report</b>
3.1	<p><b>Delivery timescales</b></p> <p>Indicative timescales for the roll out of this Scheme have been agreed with DAERA which necessitates the assessment of applications and completion of individual projects by successful applicants by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020.</p> <p>To meet this timescale all of the participating Councils are working simultaneously to the following timetable:</p>

	<p>18<sup>th</sup> November 2019 – call opens for application  18<sup>th</sup> December 2019 (12noon) – close of call  19<sup>th</sup> Dec – 13<sup>th</sup> Feb 2020 – assessment of applications and preparation of letters of offer  14<sup>th</sup> Feb 2020 – issue of letters of offer  31<sup>st</sup> March 2020 – completion of projects by letter of offer recipients</p> <p>The timescales shown for letter of offer issue (by 14<sup>th</sup> Feb 2020) and project completion by successful applicant's (by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020) form part of the contract for delivery now agreed with DAERA and must therefore be met.</p>
3.2	<p><b>Assessment arrangements</b>  Council staff will be responsible for the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Opening the call for applications</li> <li>• Initial eligibility checks</li> <li>• Liaison with DAERA / Invest NI on applications received</li> <li>• Assessment and scoring of eligible applications</li> <li>• Preparation of letters of offer</li> <li>• Collation of grant claims from successful project promoters for submission to DAERA for payment</li> <li>• Post project evaluation on individual funded projects</li> </ul>
3.3	Projects achieving a score of 65% and over will be awarded funding. In the event that the number of projects approved exceeds the budget available, funding will be awarded to the highest ranking scores until the budget is exhausted.
3.4	An overall Post Project Evaluation at scheme level will be carried out to ascertain the achievement of scheme objectives and identify lessons learnt for future similar initiatives.
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
<b>4.1</b>	<b>Financial, Human Resources &amp; Risk Implications</b>
	<p>Financial:  No Council funding required – all grant aid approved to project promoters will be paid by DAERA.</p>
	<p>Human:  Staff time. An administrative budget of £7,874 will be paid to Council by DAERA for associated administrative duties on completion of the scheme.</p>
	Risk Management: None
<b>4.2</b>	<b>Screening &amp; Impact Assessments</b>
	<p>Equality &amp; Good Relations Implications:  None</p>

	Rural Needs Implications: This scheme is specifically targeted at rural areas (defined as all areas outside of settlements with over 5000 residents).
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Recommendation(s)</b>
	<p>It is recommended;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Members note</b> update on the Rural Micro Business Small Grant Pilot Scheme and pressure on delivery timescales.</li> <li>• Once the project applications are assessed, scored and ranked, that <b>Members approve</b> authority be granted to the Director of Business &amp; Communities to approve the issue of letters of offer, up to the maximum grant funding available of £50,000, in order to allow the Rural Micro Business Small Grant Pilot Scheme to progress and be delivered within the timeframe available ie, 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020. A report will be brought to the Development Committee immediately afterwards to update Members on the outcome of assessment and scoring.</li> </ul>
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Documents Attached &amp; References</b>
	None



<b>Report on</b>	Review of Facility Opening Hours within Leisure Services
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> December 2019
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Oliver McShane, Head of Leisure
<b>Contact Officer</b>	Chris Busby, Leisure Transformation Manager

<b>Is this report restricted for confidential business?</b>	Yes	
If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	No	x

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	To seek Member approval to change opening hours within Council operated leisure facilities, with an initial evaluation of current practices presented alongside an evaluation of a wide variety of customer-usage and benchmarking information to ascertain to what extent current access reflects customer demand.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	Mid Ulster District Council formed in April 2015 bringing together the three legacy Councils of Cookstown, Dungannon and Magherafelt. Greenvale Leisure Centre came under Council Management in September 2017. This has resulted in a range of leisure/sporting facilities across the 3 areas having a variety of opening hours.
2.2	Ensuring facilities are available at times when they are in most demand is of fundamental importance to the ongoing access and success of all Leisure Centres.
2.3	Opening hours at many facilities have remained unchanged for a significant period, and may have failed to evolve to meet changing customer trends and expectations.
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Report</b>
<b>3.1</b>	<b>Current Opening Hours</b>
3.1.1	Opening hours are currently inconsistent across the leisure estate and have generally failed to evolve to reflect changing customer needs and expectations. A summary of current facility opening hours is provided below:

	Site	Mon- Fri Opening Hours	Sat Opening Hours	Sun Opening Hours
	<b>Greenvale Leisure Centre</b>	6.30am-10pm	8am-4.30pm	12.noon-4.30pm
	<b>Cookstown Leisure Centre</b>	6.30am-10pm	9am-6pm	2-6pm
	<b>Dungannon Leisure Centre</b>	7am-10pm (Fri: 7am-9pm)	9am-5pm	1.45-6pm
	<b>Maghera Leisure Centre</b>	M, Tu, Th: 7.30am-10.00pm W, F: 6.30am-10.00pm	9am-5pm	11.30-6pm
3.1.2	In comparison with local competition there has been a clear movement to early morning midweek opening, with 77% of benchmarked sites offering access between 6-6.30am. Additionally, closing times within the private sector tend to be earlier than current arrangements, with the majority of facilities (83%) closing no later than 9pm.			
3.1.3	An analysis of facility usage found that Leisure Centres typically have high usage during early mornings, with lane swimming, gym use, and in particular, early morning fitness classes well attended.			
3.1.4	By contrast it was found that facility usage at the end of the evening (8-10pm) was low, with this period accounting for just 6.6% of daily usage, falling 66.2% from the 6-8.00pm period. Further analysis found that usage tailed off significantly in the late evening, with an average of just 15.3 users in facilities at 9pm, dropping further to 6.9 users by 9.30pm.			
<b>3.2</b>	<b>Leisure Centres: Weekend Hours</b>			
3.2.1	Opening hours on Saturday's are much more standardised within facilities, with Centre's opening between 8-9am and closing between 4.30-6pm. This is relatively consistent with industry trends			
3.2.2	An analysis of Centre usage found that that usage was generally higher in early mornings and again tailed off towards current closing times. The 3.30-6.00pm period typically accounts for 51 users per site, just 8.9% of daily usage.			
3.2.3	Current opening hours on Sunday's are much more varied, and are significantly different to local competition, with 80% of competing facilities opening before 10am on Sunday mornings and closing slightly earlier in the afternoon.			
3.2.4	This was consistent with customer usage patterns which showed usage tailing off throughout the afternoon, with usage dropping to an average of just 17 users per site during the 3.30-6.00pm period.			

3.3

Sports Arenas

3.3.1

Current Opening hour for Sports Arenas are detailed below:

Site	Mon- Fri Opening Hours	Sat Opening Hours	Sun Opening Hours
Meadowbank Sports Arena	9am-10pm	9am-5.30pm	11.30am-6pm
Mid Ulster Sports Arena	9am-10pm	9am-5pm	Subject to Booking

3.3.2

Whilst there are few external comparators for Sports Arenas, usage patterns midweek and on Saturdays observed within sites found that current opening hours efficiently meet customer demand, and there is no rationale for change.

3.3.3

The two sports arenas differ in their approach to Sunday opening, with MUSA opening only when bookings are made and MSA having set hours of 11.30-6.00pm (and opening earlier when bookings dictate).

3.3.4

An analysis of bookings over the previous 12 months found core hours of 10.00-4.00pm in both facilities, during which 86% of bookings took place.

3.3.5

There were, however, very few bookings in either facility at certain periods, particularly July and December. Thus an element of seasonality to Sunday opening, where facilities close for short periods (with staff hours reallocated to work on other days), is likely to be most efficient.

3.4

Impact on Bookings and Groups

3.4.1

Across all sites, fifteen external bookings would be impacted by proposed changes to opening hours

3.4.2

Some of these classes and clubs, for example swim club bookings already operate outside normal facility operating hours.

3.4.3

Prior to implementation, it is proposed that consultation will be carried out with all impacted bookings to facilitate a change in class time or venue.

3.4.4

Where this is not possible, and there is a strong user/ community need for the activity, arrangements will be made to allow the booking or club to continue operating as normal, with minimal facility staffing levels maintained.

3.5

Customer Feedback

3.5.1

Customer surveys were performed at all Leisure sites during a range of times and days to canvas user feedback to proposed opening hours.

3.5.2

User feedback indicated strong levels of support for proposed changes, with approximately 70% of users indicating they ‘strongly agreed’ or ‘agreed’ with

	proposals regarding earlier midweek opening and alterations to weekend opening hours, particularly increased access to facilities on Sunday mornings.												
3.6	<b>Proposed Opening Hours</b>												
3.6.1	<p>It is proposed that the facilities have revised opening hours as detailed above and as detailed in the table below.</p> <table><tr><th>Site</th><th>Mon- Fri Opening Hours</th><th>Sat Opening Hours</th><th>Sun Opening Hours</th></tr><tr><td>GLC, CLC, DLC, MLC</td><td>6.30am- 9pm</td><td>8am- 4.30pm</td><td>9am-4pm</td></tr><tr><td>MSA, MUSA</td><td>9am-10pm</td><td>9am-5pm</td><td>10-4pm *Seasonal Variations</td></tr></table>	Site	Mon- Fri Opening Hours	Sat Opening Hours	Sun Opening Hours	GLC, CLC, DLC, MLC	6.30am- 9pm	8am- 4.30pm	9am-4pm	MSA, MUSA	9am-10pm	9am-5pm	10-4pm *Seasonal Variations
Site	Mon- Fri Opening Hours	Sat Opening Hours	Sun Opening Hours										
GLC, CLC, DLC, MLC	6.30am- 9pm	8am- 4.30pm	9am-4pm										
MSA, MUSA	9am-10pm	9am-5pm	10-4pm *Seasonal Variations										
4.0	<b>Other Considerations</b>												
4.1	<b>Financial, Human Resources &amp; Risk Implications</b>  Financial: The changes in opening hours can be accommodated within existing revenue budgets.  Human: Changes to opening hours will require alterations to employee working patterns. This has been considered within the review of leisure services, and included in negotiations with Trade Union officials.  Risk Management:  In line with council policy and procedures												
4.2	<b>Screening &amp; Impact Assessments</b>  Equality & Good Relations Implications:  A screening process was completed for proposed opening hours, and direct consultation was completed with local disability groups. No significant impact was found for Section 75 groups.  Rural Needs Implications: In line with council policy and procedures												



<b>5.0</b>	<b>Recommendation(s)</b>
5.1	<p>It is recommended that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Council adopt the opening times at Leisure Facilities as detailed above.</li> </ul>
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Documents Attached &amp; References</b>
6.1	None.



<b>Report on</b>	Newferry to Toome Blueway Feasibility Study
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> December 2019
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Michael Browne/Nigel Hill/Tony McCance
<b>Contact Officer</b>	Michael Browne/Nigel Hill/Tony McCance

<b>Is this report restricted for confidential business?</b>	Yes	
If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	No	X

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	The officers are seeking permission to seek quotes for consultants to carry out a feasibility study for development of a proposed Blueway between Newferry and Toome.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	Blueways are a network of multi-activity recreational trails, based on or alongside idyllic lakes, canals and rivers in Ireland. They provide scenic routes into the heart of rural Ireland by canoe, bike or on foot. Connect with friends and family as you escape to unique natural environments.
2.2	A Blueway offers a truly unique experience into the countryside and along stunning waterways, allowing the visitor to experience a beautiful fusion of the past and present. A Blueway is very similar in concept to a greenway except rather than being a trail across land, this is a water trail.
2.3	The development of Blueways presents valuable opportunities for rural communities to attract more visitors. These values lie not only in the recreational opportunities that they offer but also in their potential to stimulate local businesses and regenerate local areas.
2.4	<p>The Lower Bann River which stretches for 60km from Toome to the Atlantic is rich in wildlife, history and built and natural heritage as evidenced by the wide range of environmental designations attributed to it. Although considerable development has taken place along the River in recent years, in order for the River to maximise its full outdoor recreation potential moving forward, several key issues have been identified that require urgent addressing namely;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the River is currently a hidden asset, not reality identifiable as a destination and therefore it cannot capitalise on its role in social and economic development</li> <li>currently access on the water allows full length navigation but the river banks only allow fragmented river bank routes for walkers and cyclists</li> </ul>

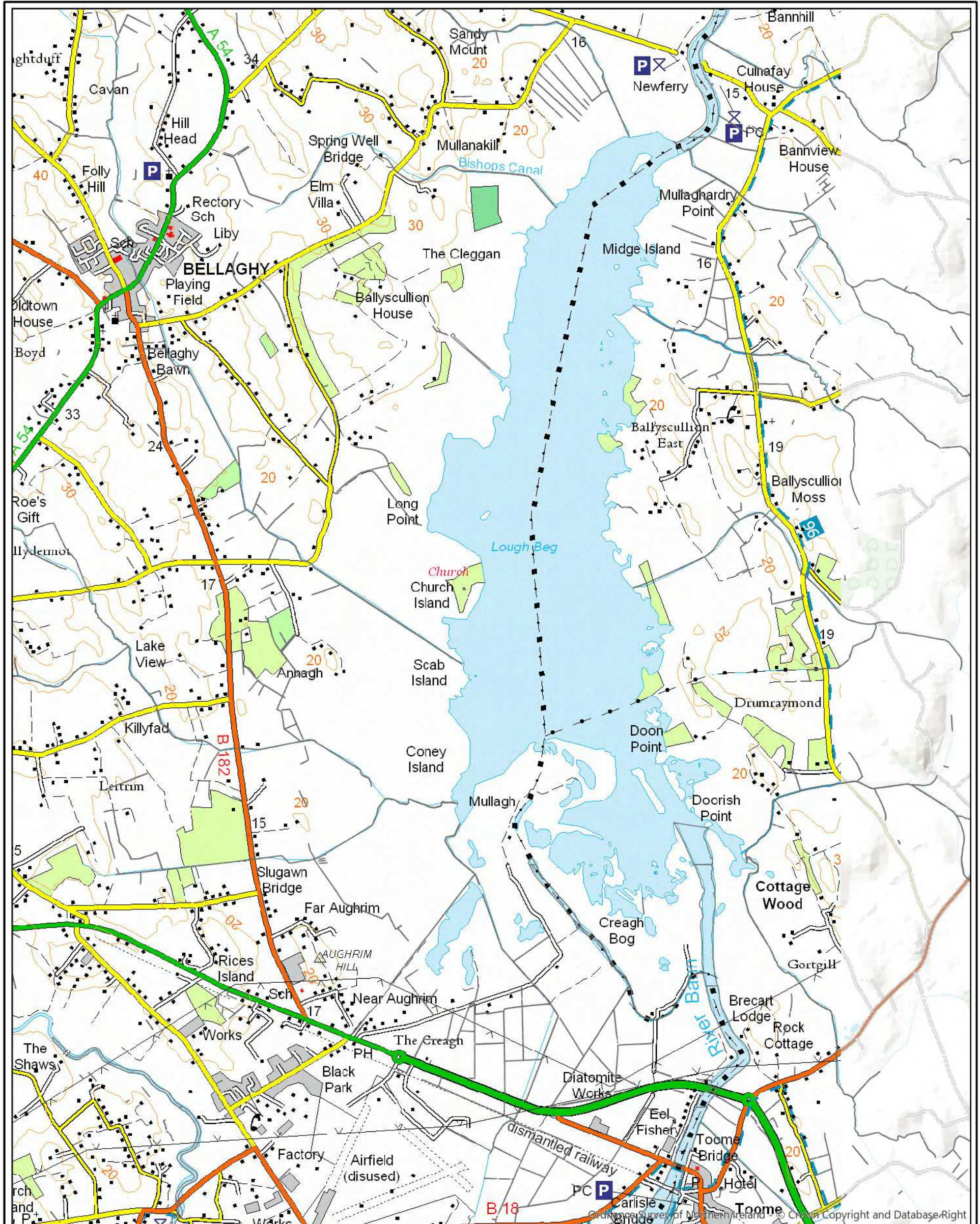
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• given that the Lower Bann drains Lough Neagh, Rivers Agency is obligated to manage the water levels in Lough Neagh releasing excess into the Lower Bann with consequent impacts on water levels and flows which then impacts water and river bank based recreation e.g. sailing and angling.</li> <li>• water ski-ing and jet skiing zones are not always being adhered to by the user groups thereby causing damage to the biodiversity and habitats of the area.</li> </ul>
2.5	In order to address these issues, Waterways Ireland has been working with the Local Authorities to create a 'Blueway' along the Lower Bann, which will significantly enhance the recreational opportunities in this part of Mid Ulster.
2.6	A Lower Bann Blueway would result in the development of a multi-use trail running alongside the already fully navigational water course linking walking, cycling, canoeing and paddle boarding with local towns and villages, leading to the creation of recreational hubs (clusters of activity), which then can be marketed as a 'Blueway', making the Lower Bann become more visible and recognised as a valuable recreational asset in the MUDC area.
2.7	Within the confines of the MUDC boundary along the Lower Bann, Toome and Portglenone have been identified as 'recreational hubs' i.e. sites that provides quality leisure facilities and amenities. Four other sites that fall within the MUDC boundary along the River have been identified as 'significant sites' namely; Lough Beg and Church Island, Newferry West, Hutchinson's Quay and Portna.
2.8	These are locations along the River that are integral to the overall Lower Bann visitor experience but avoid overprovision of amenities, necessitates lower levels of investment as well as acknowledging potential environmental sensitivities. It is important that Mid Ulster Council 'buys' into the concept of the Blueway along the Lower Bann both investing in the development of the 'hub' and 'significant' sites as well as the 'Blueway' marketing brand.
2.9	The RSBP is currently working with Forest Service NI to acquire a licence for approximately 100 hectares of peatland north of Newferry which it hopes to restore into a publicly accessible nature reserve whilst the Bann Valley Development Association are involved in developing a network of Community Trails near Clady and Inishrush, Portglenone Community Association are involved in developing angling and the Fisherman's Walk at Portglenone whilst TIDAL is involved in the creation of a Waterways Heritage Centre in Toome.
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Report</b>
3.1	Waterways Ireland have offered Mid Ulster Council £9,000 funding to carry out a feasibility for the development of a blue way from Newferry – Toome (See appendix 1.) The funding is subject to Mid Ulster Council contributing £1,000 to the total budget and project managing the feasibility study.
3.2	The feasibility study will consider extending the existing Blueway on the The River Bann from Newferry West to Toome, including Lough Beg. This proposed section of the Blueway would also include landscape that Seamus Heaney referenced in

	his poetry, and will look at extending the visitor offering to Seamus Heaney HomePlace.
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
<b>4.1</b>	<b>Financial, Human Resources &amp; Risk Implications</b>
	Financial: Within existing budget.
	Human: Tourism & Arts and Culture staff required to deliver events. .
	Risk Management: Risk assessment will be carried at the stand.
<b>4.2</b>	<b>Screening &amp; Impact Assessments</b>
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: N/A
	Rural Needs Implications: N/A
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Recommendation(s)</b>
5.1	Recommend that the Council procures a company to carry out a feasibility study for a Blueway from Newferry to Toome.
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Documents Attached &amp; References</b>
	Map showing land from Newferry West – Toome.





# New Ferry to Toome



Comhairle Ceantair  
**Lár Uladh**  
**Mid Ulster**  
District Council

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**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

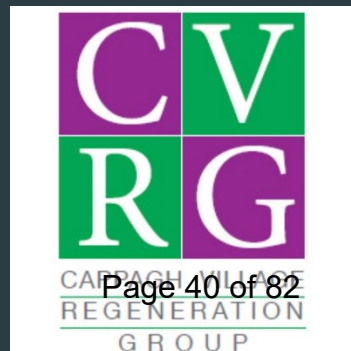
### **D210/19 Duration of Meeting**

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

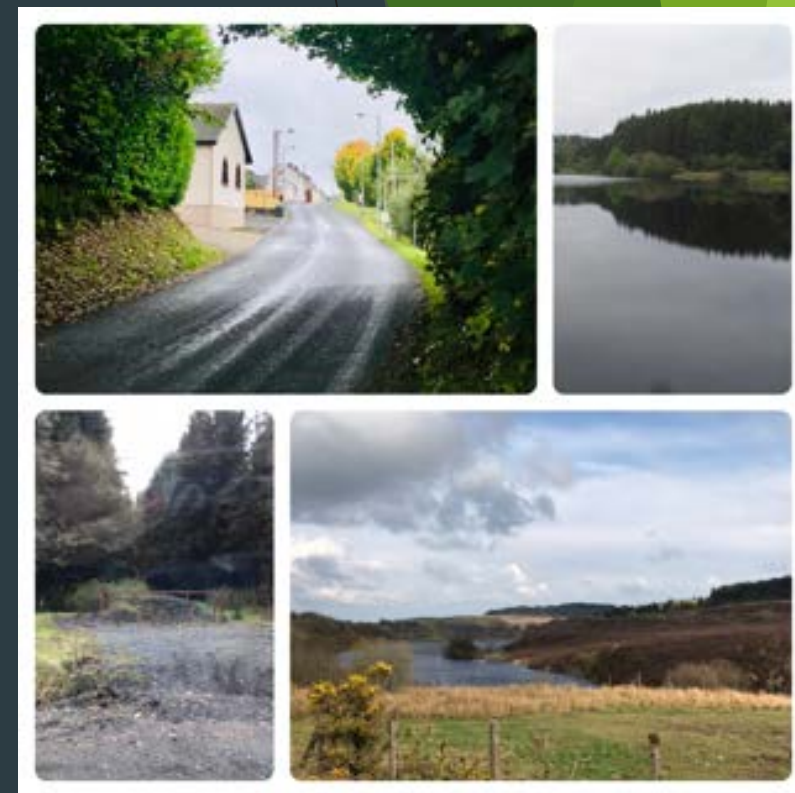
CHAIR \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

# CAPPAGH VILLAGE REGENERATION GROUP (CVRG)

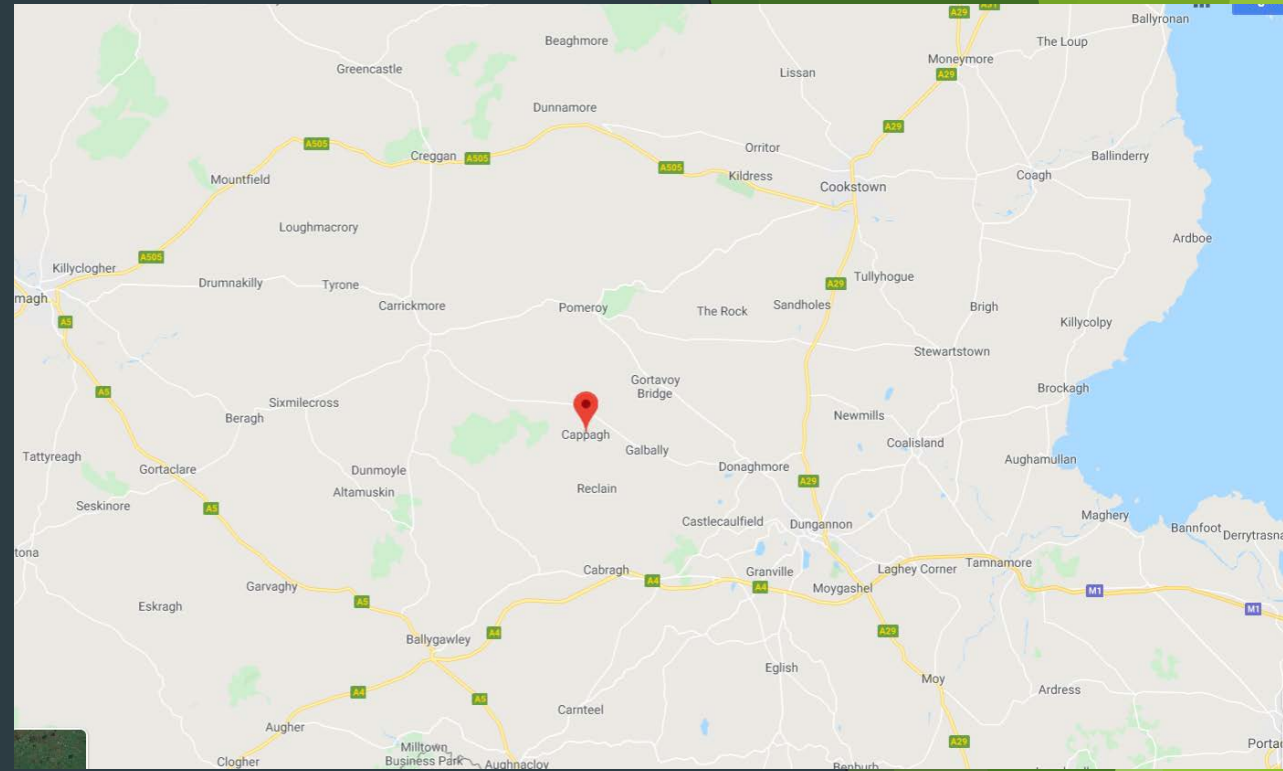






# Who are we?

- 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....

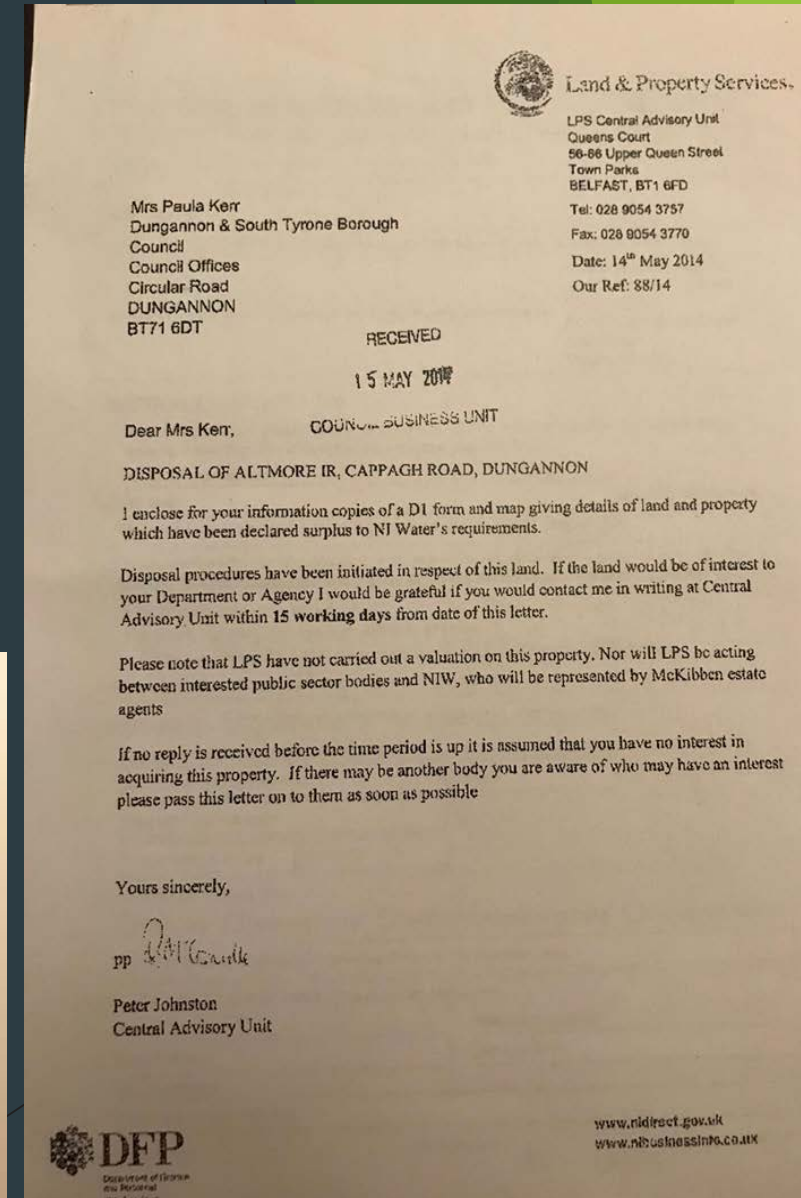
- ▶ Deprivation
- ▶ Ownership
- ▶ Unable to access funding
- ▶ Continuous lack of investment
- ▶ Neglected and Forgotten
- ▶ Challenges faced to date





# 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





# 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."



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## 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.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



# 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

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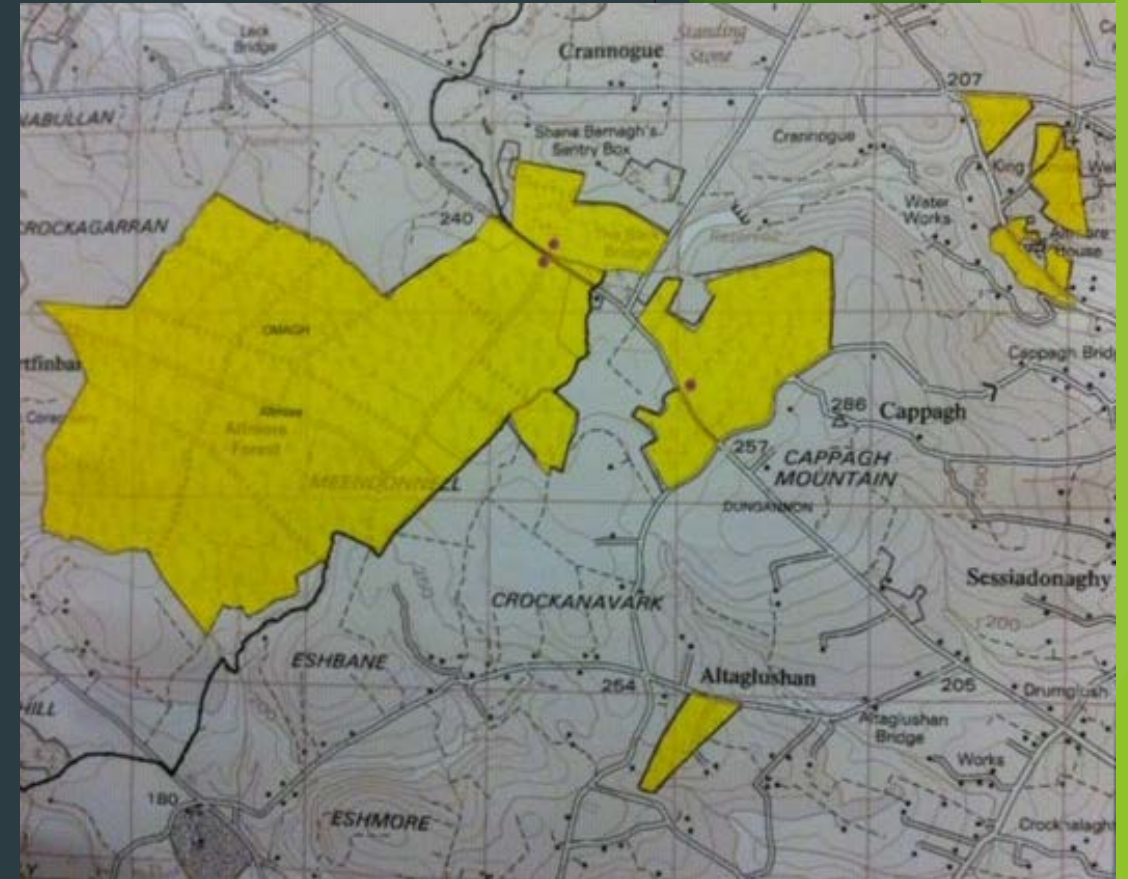
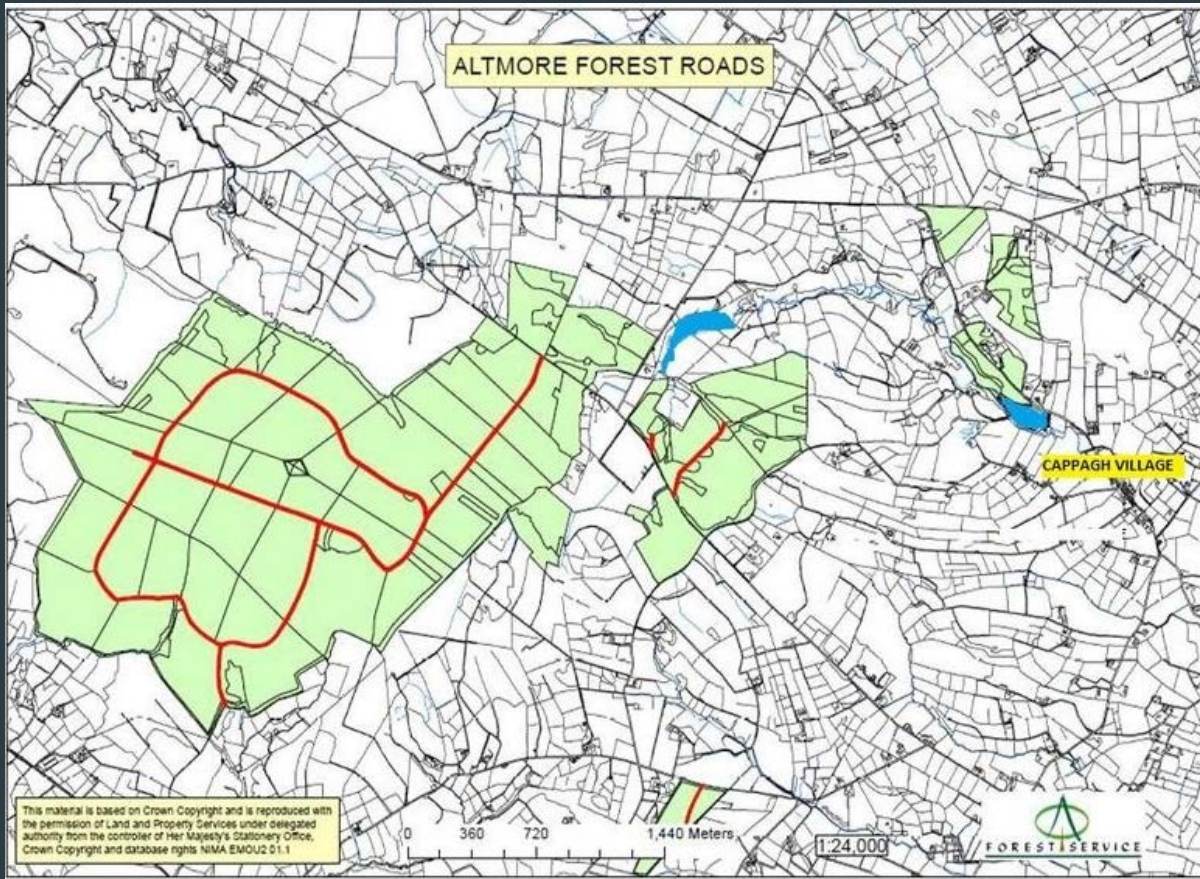








# Ownership



“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



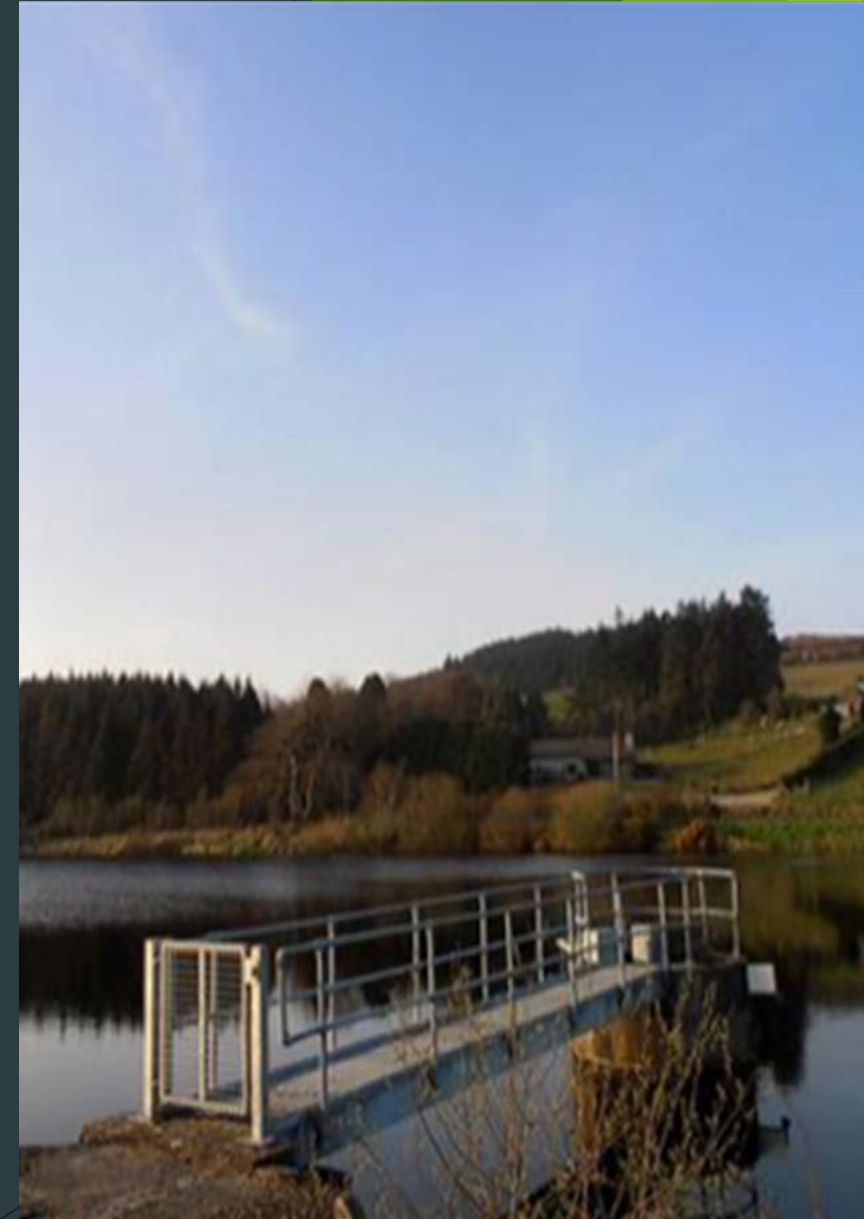
# Potential Development explored

- ▶ 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

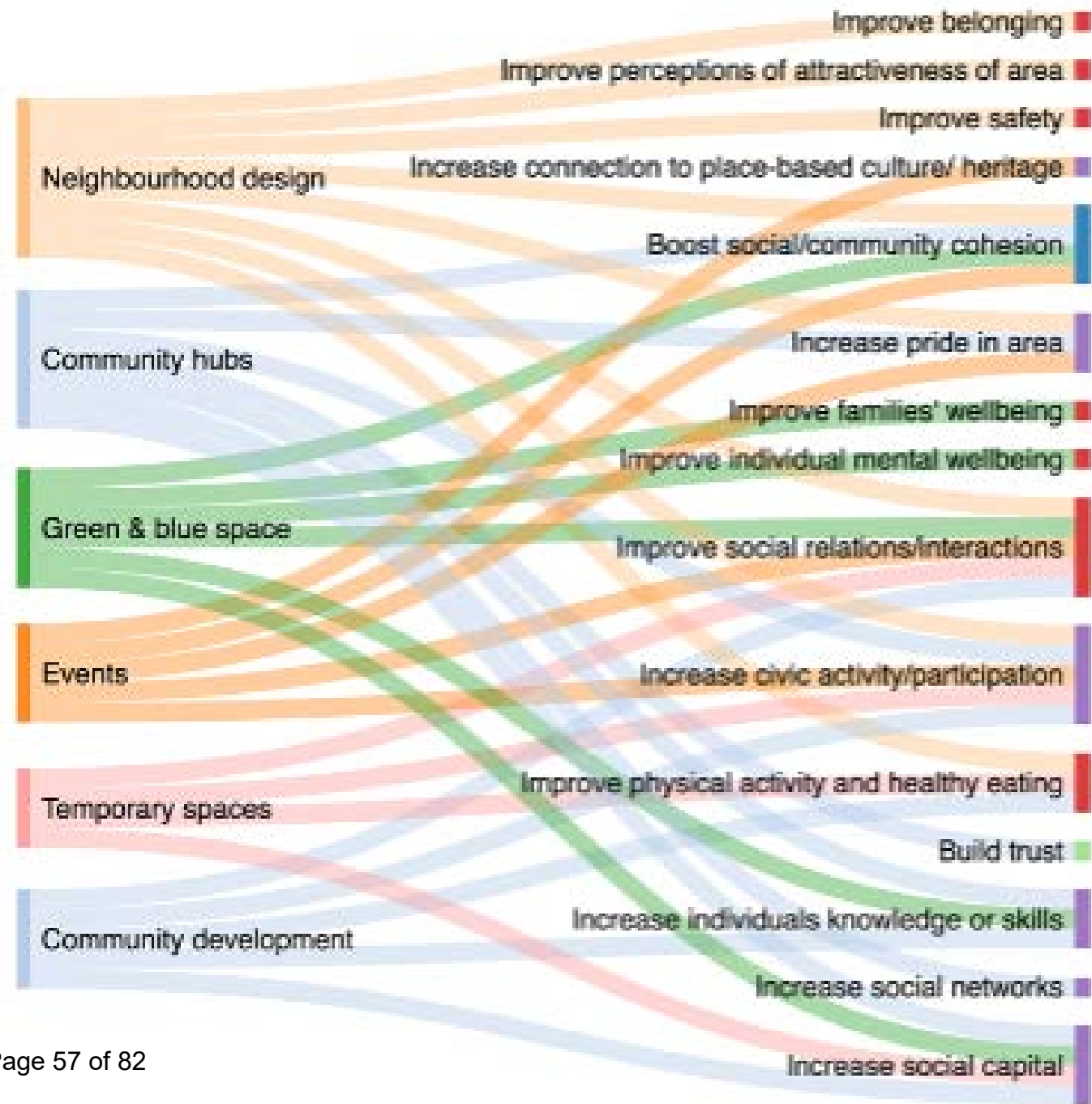








# Impact and Outcomes



# 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?

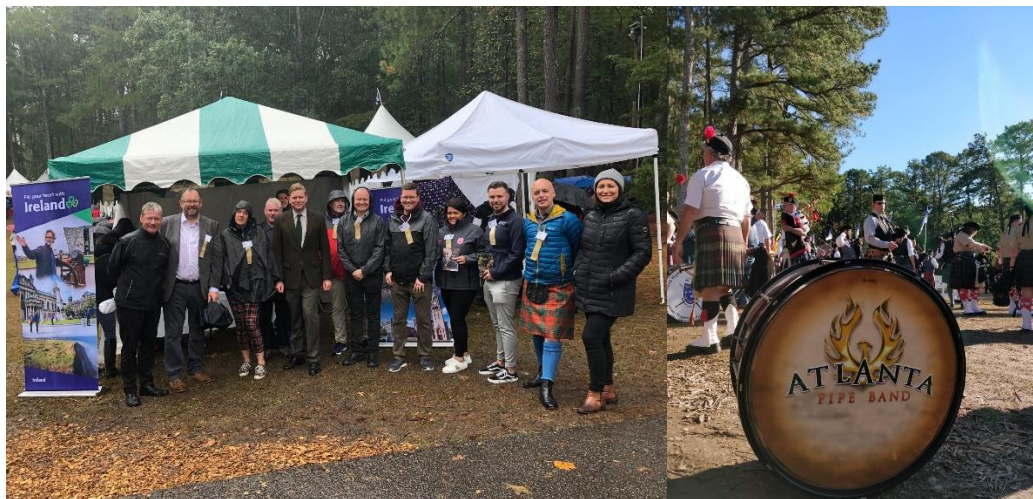
<b>Report on</b>	Stone Mountain Highland Show and World Travel Market (WTM) 2019
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> December 2019
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Michael Browne
<b>Contact Officer</b>	Mary McKeown

<b>Is this report restricted for confidential business?</b>	Yes	
If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	No	X

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	To update Council on the recent attendance at trade and consumer shows in both Stone Mountain Highland Games and World Travel Market (London)
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	<p>As part of our Mid Ulster Tourism Strategy it was identified that Tourism profile our three themes Seamus Heaney, Heritage and Outdoor products on different marketing platforms. Two tourism shows were identified to attend, Stone Mountain Highland Show Atlanta and World Travel Market (WTM) London the leading global event in the travel.</p> <p>Tourism Northern Ireland chose this year at WTM to launch their new brand known as 'Northern Ireland – Embrace a Giant Spirit'.</p>
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Report</b>
3.1	<p><b>Stone Mountain Highland Stone Atlanta</b></p> <p>Celebrating its 47<sup>th</sup> year, the Stone Mountain Highland Games is a consumer show that takes place annually in Stone Mountain Park northeast of Atlanta, Georgia. The show attracts up to 80,000 individuals of Scots and Scots-Irish descent over a two-day weekend cultural festival featuring music, entertainment, educational and sporting events.</p> <p>Tourism Ireland again had a presence at the show, and Tourism Northern Ireland worked with TIL to shape the format of the weekend and recruited Northern Ireland industry to attend.</p> <p>Our Tourism Manager was the representative from Mid Ulster District Council Tourism Department who attended the show and promoted the Presidential trail, which includes US Grants Presidential Homestead.</p>

## Outcomes

- Confirmed webinar with US Tourism Ireland Tourism Team and US tour operators February 2020
- Cara Group Travel confirmed booking with LaGrange University College, Georgia on 14<sup>th</sup> January 2020 to Seamus Heaney HomePlace and US Grants Presidential Homestead
- Isle Inn Tours programming Seamus Heaney HomePlace in their 2020 itineraries for American Visitors
- The Shamrock and Peach possible O'Neills Banquet on Hill of the O'Neill in 2021 for American tour groups (discussions ongoing)
- Media coverage on Social media and Radio Ulster



## World Travel Market – London with Tourism Ireland

World Travel Market celebrated its 40<sup>th</sup> show in London on 4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> November. This leading global show attracts buyers for around the world.

Tourism Northern Ireland chose this year at WTM to launch their new brand known as 'Northern Ireland – Embrace a Giant Spirit'. Mid Ulster District Council has three of the new 23 brand experiences that were introduced to the market at a buyer's lunch on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November.

- Stars and Stones – Davagh Dark Sky Observatory
- Seamus Heaney HomePlace
- Sheepdogs at Work







**Tourism staff pictured with Minister of State for Tourism and Sport, Brendan Griffin at WTM London**

Tourism staff attended the three day consumer and trade show promoting Seamus Heaney HomePlace and Davagh Dark Sky Observatory and achieved the following outcomes:

Meetings with the following Tour Operators with potential bookings,

Adams and Butler

Molloney & Kelly

Royal Irish Tours

Irish Welcome Tours

Celtic Horizon Tours

Odyssey

Event Partners Ireland

Cashel Travel

Connection custom Travel

Live Travel and Tours

Contiki

Gate 1

MIKI

Abbey Tours with a follow up sales call in Dublin booked for January 2020

Extensive booking enquiries for Seamus Heaney HomePlace with Tracoin.

### **Tracoin - SHHP**

#### **First One - Insights Vacations**

- High end tours mainly older demographic North American, Canada, NZ and Australia
- Offer a catered event commencing at 5.30pm light meal, featuring local produce, including beer, wine and spirits, a tour and possibly a visit to Seamus Heaney's grave
- 40 people per coach, 135 of these tours coming into NI
- 5,400 people at £30 per head.

<b>4.0</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
<b>4.1</b>	<b>Financial, Human Resources &amp; Risk Implications</b>
	Financial:
	Human: Tourism Officers working closely with Tour Operators, Tourism Ireland and Tourism Northern Ireland to increase visitors and spend to the area.
	Risk Management: N/A
<b>4.2</b>	<b>Screening &amp; Impact Assessments</b>
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: N/A
	Rural Needs Implications: N/A
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Recommendation(s)</b>
5.1	Tourism to continue to attend and promote Tourism at Trade and Consumer shows. To attend WTM London 2 – 4 November 2020.
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Documents Attached &amp; References</b>
	N/A





<b>Report on</b>	1) Coalisland Town Centre Forum Minutes 2) Cookstown Town Centre Forum Minutes 3) Magherafelt Town Centre Forum Minutes 4) Maghera Town Centre Minutes
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	Wednesday 4th December 2019
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Fiona McKeown, Head of Economic Development

<b>Is this report restricted for confidential business?</b>	Yes	
If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	No	X

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	To provide Members with an update on key activities as detailed below.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	<p><b>Coalisland Town Centre Forum Minutes</b> Coalisland Town Centre Forum was established in March 2019 along similar lines to the Forums / Partnerships already operating in Cookstown, Dungannon, Magherafelt and Maghera. The Forum is a strategic body that will provide advice and guidance to key town centre stakeholders regarding the growth of Coalisland town.</p>
2.2	<p><b>Cookstown Town Centre Forum Minutes</b> Cookstown Town Centre Forum was established in 2002 to develop a partnership approach for the development and delivery of key town centre initiatives. The Forum meets at regular intervals throughout the year.</p>
2.3	<p><b>Magherafelt Town Centre Forum Minutes</b> Magherafelt Town Centre Forum was re-established in January 2017. The forum meets on a quarterly basis and acts in an advisory capacity, playing a fundamental role in the development and delivery of key town centre initiatives.</p>
2.4	<p><b>Maghera Town Centre Forum Minutes</b> Maghera Town Centre Forum was established in August 2018. The forum allows Council to work in partnership with agencies, businesses and community and voluntary groups to ensure Maghera can achieve its full potential.</p>
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Report</b>
3.1	<p><b>Coalisland Town Centre Forum Minutes</b> Minutes of the meeting of Coalisland Town Centre Forum held on the 7<sup>th</sup> October 2019 are attached at <b>Appendix 1</b>.</p>
3.2	<p><b>Cookstown Town Centre Forum Minutes</b> Minutes of the meeting of Cookstown Town Centre Forum held on the 29<sup>th</sup> May 2019 are attached at <b>Appendix 2</b>.</p>

3.3	<b>Magherafelt Town Centre Forum Minutes</b> Minutes of Magherafelt Town Centre Forum Meeting held on 3 June 2019 are attached at <b>Appendix 3</b> .
3.4	<b>Maghera Town Centre Forum Minutes</b> Minutes of Maghera Town Centre Forum held on 17 June 2019 are attached <b>Appendix 4</b> .
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
<b>4.1</b>	<b>Financial, Human Resources &amp; Risk Implications</b>
	Financial:
	Human: Staff time in providing administrative support to the Forums/Partnerships
	Risk Management:
<b>4.2</b>	<b>Screening &amp; Impact Assessments</b>
	Equality & Good Relations Implications:
	Rural Needs Implications:
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Recommendation(s)</b>
	It is recommended that Members <b>note</b> the minutes as follows;
5.1	<b>Coalisland Town Centre Forum Minutes</b> Members to note minutes of Coalisland Town Centre Forum – 7.10.19
5.2	<b>Cookstown Town Centre Forum Minutes</b> Members to note minutes of Cookstown Town Centre Forum – 29.5.19
5.3	<b>Magherafelt Town Centre Forum Minutes</b> Members to note minutes of Magherafelt Town Centre Forum – 3.6.19
5.4	<b>Maghera Town Centre Forum Minutes</b> Members to note minutes of Maghera Town Centre Forum – 17.6.19
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Documents Attached &amp; References</b>
	Appendix 1 - Minutes of Coalisland Town Centre Forum - 7.10.19 Appendix 2 – Minutes of Cookstown Town Centre Forum – 29.5.19 Appendix 3 – Minutes of Magherafelt Town Centre Forum – 3.6.19 Appendix 4 – Minutes of Maghera Town Centre Forum – 17.6.19

## Appendix 1

**Minutes of Coalisland Town Centre Forum Meeting**  
**Monday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2019 at 5.30pm**  
**Cornmill Heritage Centre**  
**Coalisland**

### **Present**

Cllr Niamh Doris	Mid Ulster District Council (Chair)
Cllr Malachy Quinn	Mid Ulster District Council
Patrick Anderson	Department for Communities
Melanie Campbell	Coalisland & District Development Association
Francie Molloy MP	Coalisland Residents & Community Forum
Brian O'Neill	Coalisland Credit Union
Raymond O'Neill	Coalisland Traders Association

### **In Attendance**

Oliver Donnelly	Mid Ulster District Council
Colin McKenna	Mid Ulster District Council
Catherine Fox	Mid Ulster District Council
Raymond Lowry	Mid Ulster District Council
Michael McGibbon	Mid Ulster District Council

	<b>DISCUSSION</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Apologies</b> Cllr Dan Kerr                      Mid Ulster District Council Cllr Joe O'Neill                      Mid Ulster District Council Cllr Robert Colvin                      Mid Ulster District Council Declan Dorrity                      The Venue/The Beer Shed JP McCartan                      PSNI Ursula Marshall                      Mid Ulster Disability Forum  Mark Kelso                      Mid Ulster District Council Mark Leavey                      Mid Ulster District Council Adrian McCreesh                      Mid Ulster District Council Fiona McKeown                      Mid Ulster District Council
<b>3.</b>	<b>Introductions</b>  Introductions were carried out by all present.
<b>2</b>	<b>Minutes of Previous Meeting Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2019</b>  It was proposed by P Anderson

	<p>Seconded by F Molloy and agreed: -</p> <p>That the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2019 were a true and accurate record of proceedings.</p>
<b>4</b>	<p><b>Matters Arising from Previous Meeting</b></p> <p>F Molloy asked for an update on the relocating of play equipment from Gortgonis to Apex Housing Development at Gorgonis Rd. C McKenna updated that there is a proposal that the equipment be moved to Innishmore (Golf Course) area. F Molloy stated that as this equipment was funded through the Neighbourhood Renewal programme he would object to this.</p> <p><b>Action: C McKenna is to follow up with N Hill regarding location of play equipment removed from Gortgonis.</b></p> <p>Discussion ensued regarding the planning requirements with respect to new housing developments. M McGibbon stated that there is no requirement for contractors to create green space / play facilities for any housing developments under 25 units.</p> <p>C McKenna updated that the review for the Town Boundaries was completed through Planning as part of the Local Development Plan Consultation. S McAvoy in Councils Planning Department has confirmed that any businesses that want to query the boundary can do so by contacting the Planning department and all feedback received will be considered when the consultation opens.</p> <p>C McKenna updated that there have been approx 300 applications for the Town and Village Spruce up scheme.</p>
<b>5</b>	<p><b>Coalisland Project Updates</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Coalisland Public Realm Scheme</b></li> </ul> <p>R Lowry updated that Fox Contracts held information sessions on 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> September 2019 in the Cornmill Heritage Centre. They are currently setting up their site office at the area adjacent to Landi's, which was identified as a good location as it gives them a presence in the Town Centre.</p> <p>The Programme has been submitted by Fox Contracts which is currently being reviewed by the ICT team.</p> <p>MUDC have purchased the derelict building on Main Street (Brannigans). It is currently fenced up with surveys to be carried out and once these are complete the next stage is to demolish the building.</p> <p>M Campbell asked what was the progress in relation to MUDC with the purchase of 6 car parking spaces in Cornmill Car Park. Coalisland &amp; District Development Association's Solicitor has requested some further information from the group which M Campbell was providing.</p>

	<p><b>Action: C Fox is to follow up with Council Solicitor and M Campbell regarding purchase of lands within the car park.</b></p> <p>R Lowry advised that the One Way System legislation remains with DFI for signing with no further update.</p> <p>B O'Neill raised that there was a power outage in town a number of weeks ago and to ensure this was not going to happen during the main public realm scheme. C Fox advised that during the SGN works a number of months ago there was a power outage, which was dealt with and back on within 2 hours. The same process would be involved again where there was close contact between officers, Construction team and Design Team to ensure any issues were dealt with as quickly as possible.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Gortgonis Recreation Centre Redevelopment</b></li> </ul> <p>The redevelopment of Gortgonis is hoped to commence in the New Year with enabling works starting in January 2020. Council is currently in discussions with Education Authority regarding provision of a mobile facility for the playgroup during the construction phase.</p> <p>There will be new play provision provided as part of the overall project, which will include LEAP (Local Equipped Area for Play) and NEAP (Neighbourhood Equipped Area for Play) standards installed on the grounds that will cater for the local area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Halloween &amp; Christmas Events</b></li> </ul> <p>O Donnelly updated that a Halloween Working Group continues to meet on a weekly basis and activities delivered by local communities are being finalized. At the Halloween event on 31st October 2019 at Gortgonis there will be amusements from 6pm and the fireworks show will commence at 8.45pm.</p> <p>M Campbell updated that there will also be Halloween activities at the Coalisland Museum and Heritage Centre on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> October.</p> <p>The Christmas Light switch on will be held on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2019 and will be delivered in association with CRAIC Theatre.</p>
6	<p><b>Town Centre Graffiti</b></p> <p>C McKenna updated that MUDC identified areas in the town that would need addressed as part of an enhancement scheme. After consultation with Members, areas identified for works in Coalisland were submitted to Mid Ulster District Council's Development Committee in October 2019 and subsequently full Council for approval. All works, which was mainly graffiti removal in Coalisland, must be completed by end of March 2019.</p>

<b>7</b>	<p><b>CCTV Cameras</b></p> <p>O Donnelly updated that the contractor will be on site to complete works at the Cornmill on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> or Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2019 and will be finished by Friday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2019.</p>
<b>8.</b>	<p><b>Department of Finance – Non – Domestic Rates Review Consultation Event – (Monday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2019, 7pm, Hill of the O'Neill &amp; Ranfurly House, Dungannon)</b></p> <p>C Fox updated that a consultation event on Non –Domestic Rates will be held on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2019 at 7pm on the Hill of the O Neill and encouraged all businesses to attend. This will be an opportunity for local businesses to have an input into the review of Business Rates and those wishing to attend could register by contacting C Fox.</p> <p>The closing date for responses is 11<sup>th</sup> November 2019.</p>
<b>8</b>	<p><b>Any Other Business</b></p> <p>B O'Neill enquired as to whether the flowerbed scheme in relation to advertising was successful. He suggested that the paperwork for applying into the scheme outweighs the actual benefits for businesses.</p> <p><b>Action: C McKenna to liaise with Head of Property Services to relay feedback from businesses, determine uptake on the last scheme and if any changes are planned.</b></p>
<b>9</b>	<p><b>Date of Next Meeting</b></p> <p>Date of next meeting will be Tuesday 5 November 2019 @ 5.30pm. C Fox raised that Council Committee meetings were scheduled to take place that evening at 7.00pm. Members agreed to go ahead with meeting.</p>
<b>10</b>	<p><b>Meeting Duration</b></p> <p>Meeting ended at 6.50pm</p>



### **MINUTES OF COOKSTOWN TOWN CENTRE FORUM MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 29 MAY 2019 AT 12.30 PM IN THE CHAMBER, MUDC OFFICES, COOKSTOWN**

#### **Present:**

Councillor McNamee	Mid Ulster District Council
Councillor Hughes	Mid Ulster District Council
Councillor Mallaghan	Mid Ulster District Council
Councillor Wilson	Mid Ulster District Council
Patrick Anderson	Department for Communities
Neil Bratton	DFI Roads NI
Tom Jebb	Vintners Association
Ursula Marshall	Cookstown Disability Forum
Annette McGahan	Mid Ulster PCSP
TP Sheehy	Small Independent Retailer
Paul Wilson	Large Independent Retailer
Mary McCullagh	Mid Ulster District Council

<b>In attendance:</b> Deborah Ewing	Mid Ulster District Council
Sharon Scott	Place Management Solutions
Mark Davidson	SGN Natural Gas
Adrian Harley	Keir Utilities
Declan Carlin	Keir Utilities
Bernie Mullin	Grays Communications

#### **1. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received on behalf of Councillor Gavin Bell, Councillor Mark Glasgow, and Councillor Wilbert Buchanan, Mid Ulster District Council; Raymond McGarvey, Chamber of Commerce; Andrew McConnell, Large Independent Retailer; Sean MacMahon, MACM; Peter Beckett, Asda; Jim Eastwood, Cookstown Enterprise ; E McCullagh, Planning Department. Adrian McCreesh, Mid Ulster District Council; Fiona McKeown, Mid Ulster District Council.

Councillor McNamee advised members that following Council elections Councillor Kerri Hughes, SDLP, has replaced Councillor Tony Quinn. He extended a welcome to the Forum and each member introduced themselves.

## **2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

It was proposed by P Anderson and seconded by T Jebb to ADOPT the minutes of the Town Centre Forum Meeting held on 10 April 2019.

## **3. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

There were no matters arising from minutes.

## **4. TO RECEIVE PRESENTATION ON BID<sub>s</sub> FEASIBILITY STUDY**

Sharon Scott, Place Management Solutions provided an overview of the Cookstown Bid Feasibility Study to members:

A BID is an arrangement whereby businesses get together, decide what additional improvements they can make, how they are going to manage it, how to deliver it and how much it will cost. A BID can last for a maximum of 5 years and must be able to demonstrate how it has benefited businesses who have funded it. At present there are 8 BIDs in Northern Ireland with over 4,000 businesses currently involved in a variety of projects i.e. car parking access, marketing, events etc.

Feasibility studies were conducted for each of the 5 towns in Mid Ulster. One town will be selected to pilot the BID based on the results from the study. Members will be advised which town will be selected in due course.

TP Sheehy arrived at the meeting at 12.45pm.

The Feasibility Study was conducted based on the town centre boundary (Cookstown Area Plan boundary – top of Loy Hill to top of Oldtown Street with the inclusion of some of Molesworth Street, Union Street and Burn Road). There are 401 properties within the boundary (businesses with a rateable value) which were identified through the LPS data. Baseline figure is established for rateable value (normally £2,500). It was noted that anything under this value would not be feasible. This is applied as a percentage of the Net Asset Value (NAV) which includes charities etc. The levy for vacant properties will be applied to the property owners. The current make up of businesses in Cookstown shows 64% retail and 8% vacant premises with the remaining 28% non-retail.

The potential levy rate is as follows:

Levy Rate	Total Funds Raised
1%	£64,303
1.5%	£96,454.50
2%	£128,606



A number of town centre priority issues were identified through the business surveys, consultations and workshops that took place which included: raising the profile of the town; developing a cohesive marketing strategy; attracting new independent businesses; business crime reduction; infrastructure etc. Only a limited number of businesses engaged in the consultation process although she acknowledged that M McCullagh and the Economic Development Team made a concerted effort to encourage participation.

It was noted that a BID would only be delivered based on viable options; a BID is not the answer to everything in town centre. A BID works in partnership with businesses and is only part of a regeneration jigsaw. It allows businesses to plan and budget and is independent, enabling businesses to evolve and develop.

She stated that the vacancy levels within the town were slightly higher than average, which is understandable in the current climate.

A lot of discussion took place on the possibility of BIDs delivery in Cookstown with topics including the large companies in the town being involved. It was requested that a copy of the Feasibility Study is available to members on their request.

S Scott advised that 1 town will be selected for a pilot BIDs initially in the Mid Ulster area, with the view of the other 2 towns observing before committing. It was noted that developing a BID is a 12 month process. A full time person would be required, with funding for such potentially achieved through DFC and Council. However, Feasibility Study would need to demonstrate the practicality of delivering a bid along with evidence to show commitment from the business community to deliver.

Councillor T Wilson left the meeting at 1.10pm.

A report has been prepared and submitted to Council for review. This includes recommendations from Place Management Solutions on which town should proceed with a pilot BID initially.

Councillor J McNamee thanked S Scott for the overview and will advise members of the outcome once approved at Council. S Scott left the meeting at 1.15pm.

Councillor J McNamee advised T P Sheehy that the forum unanimously agreed for TP Sheehy to remain as Vice Chair of the forum, with him confirming that he would remain in position.

#### **5. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM SGN NATURAL GAS UPON COMPLETION OF WORKS AT THE ORRITOR ROAD JUNCTION AND FUTURE WORKS SCHEDULED FOR COOKSTOWN**

The Chair welcomed representatives from SGN Natural Gas, Keir Utilities and Grays Communications to the meeting. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss how the works were conducted at the Orritor Road Junction and to learn from any issues arising from them going forward with the future works proposed through the summer period.

A Harley, Keir Utilities stated that the Orritor Road Junction works were completed ahead of schedule with no issues reported. P Wilson thanked the representatives for working through the week as requested in order to complete the works.

Maps were distributed to members for information showing the completed works and the proposed works planned for Cookstown. Further gas works will commence on Orritor Road – towards Orritor (approximately 500 metres) – after DfI Roads have completed the installation of the new traffic light system in mid to late June 2019. Residents will be notified in advance.

The works on Cemetery Road, Cookstown are making excellent progress. Members were advised that there is hard rock at the beginning of the road, which has caused some issues.

Works are planned for 1 July 2019 for Drum Road - approximately 80-90 metres to Westland Road (from mini roundabout to cemetery). Proposed traffic management for this area is to put the traffic to one-way with the flow going from Westland Road to Drum Road. After much discussion on this issue it was agreed that changing the flow of traffic to allow for access from Drum Road to Westland Road would alleviate the pressure from Sweep Road and accommodate the traffic coming from Dungannon and Omagh areas. Signage will be displayed showing alternative diversion routes around the town. It was noted that the flow could be changed again if required. McVeighs will be the traffic management company for these works.

Further works are planned for 19 August to early September 2019 at Morgans Hill Road with the anticipation of retaining a 2 way traffic flow.

Works planned for Moneymore Road will commence during the Halloween period with 2 way traffic flow being retained.

Resurfacing schemes are planned to take place across all 3 towns. Members were advised that it is impossible to conduct all of these works during the summer holidays but will try and accommodate where possible.

B Mullin, Grays Communications advised members that monthly updates of proposed works are distributed to MPs, MLAs and councillors. If there are any queries, they can be dealt with directly.

N Bratton advised that works on the mini roundabouts at Moneymore is due to commence with plans for work to occur on consecutive Sundays.

He also stated that works on the realignment of the Orritor Road Junction will take place on 15-17 June 2019. Work will commence at 5pm on the Saturday with work continuing all through Sunday to enable road to be opened on Monday morning at 7am. Residents will be notified in advance with a knock on door approach also being taken.

The representatives left the meeting at 1.30pm

## **6. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON COOKSTOWN CONTINENTAL MARKET 2019**

M McCullagh provided an update on the Continental Market due to take place this weekend - Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> June and Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2019. A road closure will be in place from 6.30pm on Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2019 until approximately 9pm on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2019.

The event hours will be Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> June 9am – 9pm and Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 11am – 6pm. There will be more children's entertainment throughout the weekend due to positive feedback from previous event. A variety of other entertainment is also scheduled with local acts performing on the stage on Sunday.

M McCullagh thanked the businesses in the town for taking part in the Shoppers Draw and for their ongoing support. TP Sheehy commented that the market is good for Cookstown.

## **7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Cllr McNamee raised concerns that the pavement on Orritor Street which was damaged by NI Water has not been rectified. N Bratton advised that this has been raised with NI Water and Northstone will be conducting the works on 21 and 23 June 2019. He advised that NI Water are liable for any accidents that occur until the works are completed to a satisfactory standard and stated that DfI Roads are in constant contact with NI Water. N Bratton will provide full details to Councillor McNamee on this outstanding issue.

## **8. DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

To be arranged. Members will be notified accordingly.

The meeting ended at 1.35pm

## **Appendix 3**

**MINUTES OF MAGHERAFELT TOWN CENTRE FORUM**  
**MONDAY 3 JUNE 2019 AT 6:15PM**  
**MAGHERAFELT OFFICES,**  
**MID ULSTER DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**Present:**

Councillor Clarke	Mid Ulster District Council (Chair)
Councillor McLean	Mid Ulster District Council
Councillor Brown	Mid Ulster District Council
Mark Stewart	Vintners Representative
Robin Kennedy	Magherafelt Chamber of Commerce
Claire McOsker	Professional Sector Representative
Colin McKeown	Mid Ulster District Council
Shauna McCloskey	Mid Ulster PCSP
Ursula Marshall	Disability Forum

**In Attendance:**

Davina McCartney	Mid Ulster District Council
Colin McKenna	Mid Ulster District Council
P McMenemy	Moneymore Heritage Trust
G Glover	Moneymore Heritage Trust
L Armstrong	Moneymore Heritage Trust
Cllr R Colvin	Moneymore Heritage Trust

**Apologies:**

Councillor Christine McFlynn	Mid Ulster District Council
Councillor Darren Totten	Mid Ulster District Council
Jack Keatley	Magherafelt Trustees
Patrick Anderson	Department for Communities
Sinead McAvoy	Mid Ulster District Council

	<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<b>ACTION</b>
<b>1.</b>	<b>WELCOME</b>  The Chairman, Cllr Clarke welcomed everyone to the meeting. As there were new member's introductions were made.	
<b>2.</b>	<b>MATTERS ARISING</b>  <u>Seamus Heaney Home Place</u> In response to a query raised by R Kennedy D McCartney stated Seamus Heaney HomePlace is operating within projected budgets and has exceeded visitor numbers since opening.  <u>Castledawson Roundabout</u>	

	D McCartney stated Mid Ulster District Council are requesting lighting is installed on Castledawson Roundabout.	
<b>2.</b>	<b>MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING</b>  Minutes of previous meeting 12 November 2018 were agreed as accurate. Proposed by: M Stewart Seconded by: C McOsker	
<b>3.</b>	<b>MONEYMORE HERITAGE TRUST</b>  P McMenemy introduced the members of Moneymore Heritage Trust. R Colvin delivered a presentation on the traffic issues facing Moneymore. Moneymore is a pinch point for traffic. There are currently 16,000 vehicles travelling through it on a daily basis. Moneymore Heritage Trust are seeking advice and support from Magherafelt Town Centre Forum as the group feel Moneymore needs a bypass. Following discussion about the issues facing Moneymore and the need for a solution, it was agreed that Magherafelt Town Centre Forum would support Moneymore Heritage Trust in whatever way they could. U Marshall suggested Moneymore Heritage Trust should deliver this presentation to Cookstown Town Centre Forum.	
<b>4.</b>	<b>TOWN CENTRE EVENTS UPDATE</b>  D McCartney provided an update on the Tafelta Festival taking place on 21 and 22 June 2019.	
<b>5.</b>	<b>RURAL REGENERATION PROJECTS UPDATE</b>  D McCartney provided an update on the Rural Regeneration projects currently being delivered.	
<b>6.</b>	<b>REGENERATION MANAGER REPORT</b>  D McCartney updated on the previously circulated Regeneration Managers Report.  <b>Marketing &amp; Promotion</b> A variety of branded promotional materials have been purchased and continue to be distributed as per the implementation plan at town centre events.  <b>Business Support / Attracting Investment</b> <u>Seamus Heaney HomeGround Project</u>	

	<p>The project aims to enhance the work being developed in Seamus Heaney HomePlace through the development of a series of experiences for visitors to Seamus Heaney HomeGround. A Letter of Offer has been received from the Rural Tourism Fund through the Department of Agriculture, Environment &amp; Rural Affairs.</p> <p><b>Town Centre Events</b></p> <p><u>Tafelta Festival</u></p> <p>The Tafelta Festival will take place on Friday 21 and Saturday 22 June 2019. This annual event will celebrate Magherafelt as a place to live, work and visit. The Tafelta Festival will focus on the distinctive heritage, cultural and literary connections of Magherafelt as highlighted in the Positioning Statement including the Seamus Heaney link.</p> <p><u>Magherafelt Christmas Market &amp; Christmas Lights Switch On</u></p> <p>Magherafelt Christmas Market and Christmas Lights Switch On will take place on Saturday 23 November &amp; Sunday 24 November 2019.</p> <p><b>Physical Regeneration / Improving Infrastructure</b></p> <p><u>Public Art Piece – Castledawson Roundabout</u></p> <p>Officers are continuing to work with Department of Infrastructure (Roads) on the installation of a Public Art Piece on the pedestrian bridge at the Castledawson Roundabout.</p> <p><u>Magherafelt Revitalisation Project</u></p> <p>Department for Communities awarded Mid Ulster District Council £160,706 to upgrade the Pedestrian Linkages from Union Road and Central Car Parks to Broad Street, Magherafelt. The project will include upgraded lighting, surfacing and graffiti removal. FP McCann were awarded the contract and project works are currently underway.</p> <p><u>Mid Ulster Shop Front Scheme</u></p> <p>Council has approved the provision of a new Business Spruce Up Scheme for towns and villages across the district, as classified within Mid Ulster's Draft Local Development Plan 2030. A tender process is underway to appoint a Chartered Architect to manage the delivery of the scheme over a 2 – 3 year period. Further details will be provided in due course.</p>	
6.	<p><b>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</b></p> <p>R Kennedy asked if there was any update on car parking charges across the district. An update is to be provided at the next meeting. Cllr P McLean asked if there was an update on the Public Realm Scheme Phase 2. D McCartney stated it is part of Department for Communities 3 year plan.</p>	

8.	<b>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</b>  To be circulated.	
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Meeting ended 7.30pm

## Appendix 4

### MINUTES OF MAGHERA TOWN CENTRE FORUM MONDAY 17 JUNE 2019 AT 6PM WALSH'S HOTEL, MAGHERA

<b>Present:</b>	Cllr Brian McGuigan	Mid Ulster District Council (Chair)
	Cllr Sean McPeake	Mid Ulster District Council
	Cllr Kyle Black	Mid Ulster District Council
	Patrick Anderson	Department for Communities
	Jonathan Crawford	Crawford's
	Una Morgan	The Dugout Bar
	Cathy O'Neill	Walsh's Hotel
	Kieran Bradley	Walsh's Hotel
	Conor Molloy	Watty Graham's GAC
	Ursula Marshall	Mid Ulster Disability Forum
	Conal McKee	DfI Roads
	Michael McCrory	Mid Ulster District Council
	Colin McKeown	Mid Ulster District Council

<b>In Attendance:</b>	Davina McCartney	Mid Ulster District Council
	Raymond Holbeach	RPS

<b>Apologies:</b>	James Armour	Maghera Heritage Association
	Kate Lagan	Maghera Development Association
	Mark Kelso	Mid Ulster District Council

	<b>DISCUSSION</b>
<b>1.</b>	<b>WELCOME</b> Cllr McGuigan welcomed everyone to the meeting of Maghera Town Centre Forum.
<b>2.</b>	<b>MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING 26 NOVEMBER 2018</b> Proposed by Cllr S McPeake Seconded by P Anderson
<b>3.</b>	<b>MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES</b> Cllr S McPeake asked if the possibility of removing buildings at the main junction had been investigated. R Holbeach confirmed this had been considered and did not show significant improvements.
<b>4.</b>	<b>MAGHERA PUBLIC REALM SCHEME</b> R Holbeach delivered a presentation on the Public Realm Scheme following the information session held in March. Members felt the proposals significantly improved traffic flow on Hall Street and Coleraine Road and the input of businesses was very important.



	<p>An information session is scheduled for 26 June from 1pm – 8pm in Maghera Leisure Centre. The number of disabled parking bays was queried. R Holbeach stated this level of detail had not been finalized yet.</p> <p>Members felt it would be important to ensure a proper bus stop on St Lurach's Road was incorporated as part of the project proposals.</p> <p>The extension of double yellow lines on Hall Street could be taken forward by DfL Roads prior to the commencement of the Public Realm Scheme.</p> <p>Members stressed the importance of car parking going forward in the scheme and the issues of all day parking in the town centre need to be addressed.</p>
<b>5.</b>	<p><b>BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT FEASIBILITY STUDY</b></p> <p>The BIDS Feasibility Study had looked at the total number of businesses and the total rateable value of those businesses. 146 businesses operated in Maghera Town centre generating a total rateable value of £1,202,340.</p> <p>Potential levy rates had been looked at of:</p> <p>1% would raise £12,023.40</p> <p>1.5% would raise £18,035.10</p> <p>2% would raise £24,046.86</p> <p>The main issues identified in Maghera included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promoting independent businesses</li> <li>• Attracting new businesses</li> <li>• Increase no. of car parking spaces</li> <li>• Enhanced street cleansing</li> <li>• Business crime reduction</li> <li>• Better internet &amp; IT connectivity</li> <li>• Better business to business trading opportunities</li> </ul> <p>The recommendation from the BIDS Feasibility Study was that a BID for Maghera Town Centre is not viable, given the financial analysis, which clearly shows that the amount generated from the BID levy would not have a significant impact on the regeneration of the town centre, when assessed against the costs of operating a BID. It was recommended that further intensive work is required to enhance the level of business engagement and alternative avenues to generate additional income are investigated.</p>
<b>5.</b>	<p><b>RURAL VILLAGES PROJECT UPDATE</b></p> <p>D McCartney gave an update on the walkway project from Maghera Walled Garden to Tobermore Road. A launch event is planned for Monday 24 June at 11:30am.</p> <p>Members stated that further walkways could be developed subject to further funding.</p>
<b>6.</b>	<p><b>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</b></p> <p>Members questioned the route the Local Full Fibre Network would take. It was stated the route would be dictated by the company who wins the tender for the project and would be known late summer / early autumn.</p>
<b>7.</b>	<p><b>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</b></p> <p>To be circulated.</p>

