

Minutes of Meeting of Mid Ulster District Council held on Thursday 22 February 2018 in the Council Offices, Circular Road, Dungannon

Chair: Councillor Ashton

Members Present: Councillors Bateson, Bell, Burton, Clarke, Cuddy, Cuthbertson, Doris, Elattar, Gildernew, Gillespie, Glasgow, Kearney, McAleer, McEldowney, McFlynn, McGinley, B McGuigan, S McGuigan, McKinney, McNamee, McPeake, Milne (7.02pm), Molloy, Monteith, Mullen, Mulligan, J O'Neill, M Quinn, T Quinn, Reid, Robinson, Totten and Wilson

Officers in Attendance: Mr Tohill, Chief Executive
Ms Campbell, Director of Leisure & Outdoor Recreation
Mr Cassells, Director of Environment & Property
Mr McCreesh, Director of Business & Communities
Mr P Moffett, Head of Democratic Services
Mr JJ Tohill, Director of Finance
Mrs Forde, Member Support Officer

The meeting commenced at 7pm

C26/18 Apologies

Councillors Buchanan, Forde, Mallaghan, McLean and G Shiels

C27/18 Declarations of Interest

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

C28/18 Chair's Business

None.

Matters for Decision

C29/18 Receive and Consider Minutes of matters transacted in "Open Business" at the Special Council meeting held on Thursday 18 January 2018

Proposed by Councillor Molloy
Seconded by Councillor Wilson and

Resolved: That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Special Council held on Thursday 18 January 2018 (SC1/18 –SC7/18) transacted in "Open

Business” having been printed and circulated were considered and adopted.

C30/18 Receive and Consider Minutes of matters transacted in “Open Business” at the Council meeting held on Thursday 25 January 2018

Proposed by Councillor McNamee
Seconded by Councillor J O’Neill and

Resolved: That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on Thursday 25 January 2018 (C1/18 – C25/18) transacted in “Open Business” having been printed and circulated were considered and adopted.

C31/18 Receive and Consider Minutes of matters transacted in “Open Business” at the Special Council meeting held on Monday 12 February 2018

Proposed by Councillor B McGuigan
Seconded by Councillor Wilson and

Resolved: That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Special Council held on Monday 12 February 2018 (SC8/18 –SC15/18) transacted in “Open Business” having been printed and circulated were considered and adopted.

C32/18 Receive and Consider Minutes of matters transacted in “Open Business” at the Planning Committee meeting held on Tuesday 6 February 2018

Proposed by Councillor Reid
Seconded by Councillor Bell and

Resolved: That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Planning Committee held on Tuesday 6 February 2018 (P016/18 – PO31/18) transacted in “Open Business” having been printed and circulated were considered and adopted.

C33/18 Receive and Consider Minutes of matters transacted in “Open Business” at the Policy and Resources meeting held on Thursday 8 February 2018

The Chair, Councillor Ashton drew attention to Item PR027/18 and sought clarity in relation to the vote tally. Councillor Molloy concurred stating that his recollection was it should read ‘For 8’ and ‘Against 6’. The Chair stated that there had only been 13 voting members present at that point of the meeting and recommended that the item be referred back to Policy and Resources Committee in March for clarification. The Chair also requested that Councillor Burton be added to the ‘In Attendance’ list.

Councillor McFlynn stated that she had been in attendance but had not participated in the vote.

Proposed by Councillor Gildernew
Seconded by Councillor Molloy and

Resolved: That

- (i) the Minutes of the Meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee held on Thursday 8 February 2018 (PR024/18 – P026/18, PR029/18 – PR032/18 and PR043/18) transacted in “Open Business” having been printed and circulated were considered and adopted; and
- (ii) Item PR027/18 External Signage: Play Areas referred back to committee to clarify voting numbers.

Councillor Milne entered the meeting at 7.02 pm

C34/18 Receive and Consider Minutes of matters transacted in “Open Business” at the Environment Committee held on Tuesday 13 February 2018

Proposed by Councillor McNamee
Seconded by Councillor Kearney and

Resolved: That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Environment Committee held on Tuesday 13 February 2018 (E031/18 – E068/18) transacted in “Open Business” having been printed and circulated were considered and adopted.

C35/18 Receive and Consider Minutes of matters transacted in “Open Business” at the Development Committee held on Thursday 15 February 2018

Proposed by Councillor McAleer
Seconded by Councillor Doris and

Resolved: That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Development Committee held on Thursday 15 February 2018 (D023/18 – D044/18) transacted in “Open Business” having been printed and circulated were considered and adopted.

C36/18 Conferences, Seminars and Training

Approval was sought for undernoted conferences for attendance of Members and Council Officers outlined in the report, the payment of attendance fees and associated costs as incurred. The Head of Democratic Services tabled and referred to the undernoted, DIGG for Success event, highlighting that Councillor Doris wished to attend. The Chair Councillor Ashton suggested that details of the event be circulated to Members in case other members wished to attend.

(i) Member Approvals

- NILGA – Code of Conduct Refresher Information
Following dates as outlined below: No attendance fee, mileage and subsistence.
 - Tues 20 February 2018, 10.30am-12.30pm Downshire Civic Centre, Downpatrick
 - Tues 27 February 2018, 12.30pm-14.20, Radisson Blu Hotel, Limavady
 - Wed 7 March 2018, 12.30pm – 14.30, Glenavon Hotel, Cookstown
 - Tues 27 March 2018, 17.30pm – 19.30, Bangor Castle, Bangor
- DIGG For Success - Under The Influence (Social Media Seminar)
Friday 2 March 2018 at Ranfurly House, Dungannon 8.30am – 1.00pm Cost £40, travel and subsistence; Councillor Doris to attend

(ii) Officer Approvals

Conference & Seminar	Date	No. of Attendees	Location	Attendance Fee (Yes/No)
Healthy Working Lives Conference	15th March 2018	1	Belfast	Free
SOLACE Conference	1 st March 2018	3 - Chief Executive & 2 Directors	Belfast	£99 member £130 Non-member

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

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

C37/18 Consideration of Requests for Civic Recognition

Reference was made to the previously circulated report and approval sought for request(s) for civic recognition from members, in line with Council Receptions Policy.

Proposed by Councillor Monteith
Seconded by Councillor B McGuigan and

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

C38/18 Council Consultation - Submission for Approval

The Head of Democratic Services drew attention to the previously circulated report to inform members of the development of a council response to the Northern Health & Social Care Trust Consultation - Future Model for Acute Paediatric Services in Northern Trust hospitals.

Proposed by Councillor S McGuigan

Seconded by Councillor J O'Neill and

Resolved: That approval be granted to the consultation response for Northern Health & Social Care Trust Consultation - Future Model for Acute Paediatric Services in Northern Trust hospitals.

Matters for Information

C39/18 Consultations Notified to Mid Ulster District Council

Reference was made to the previously circulated report to update Members on consultations notified to Mid Ulster District Council. The Head of Democratic Services highlighted that a number of the consultations were scheduled to close prior to the March Council meeting and should Members wish Council to submit a response they could consider delegating authority to the relevant Committee to agree.

Councillor McGinley expressed concern in relation to the Boundary Commission for NI proposed changes, he stated that within the community there was a nervousness surrounding the changes and there were suggestions that what was being proposed was gerrymandering as it was such a dramatic change from the 2016 proposals. Councillor McGinley proposed that Council write to the Boundary Commission for NI posing the question as to how the dramatic change came about, he emphasised that he would like to see Council having a fair approach in responding to the consultation of which he would like input into to.

Councillor Cuthbertson stated that Council had made a submission into the initial Boundary Commission consultation at which time Dungannon town had been cut in three and declared that Council should be welcoming the current proposals as they had taken on-board the views of the political parties.

Councillor McGinley sought clarification on what Councillor Cuthbertson had proposed as it was the opposite of his own proposal. He emphasised that Council should be supporting its citizens.

The Chair, Councillor Ashton stated that Councillor Cuthbertson had not made a proposal.

Councillor Cuthbertson reiterated that he welcomed the current Boundary Commission for NI proposals and clarified that he had not made a proposal but was emphatic that Council should only be concerned about their towns and villages, not party political wishes. He emphasised that any Dungannon Councillor would welcome the current proposals as the town was within one parliamentary constituency not split as per the 2016 proposals.

Councillor M Quinn stated he was somewhat torn between the two proposals in that the current plan is better in some respects but that he would share Councillor McGinley's concerns and that he too would like to know how and why the proposals were so radically changed.

Councillor Bell seconded Councillor McGinley's proposal highlighting that it was 50 years since Civil Rights had been triggered in the district and said that the current proposal issued by the Boundary Commission was a throwback from the past. He emphasised as a Council area he would like Mid Ulster to progress and return to past ways.

Councillor Monteith said he had no difficulty with anyone looking at the proposals but that in his thinking Council needed to protect its main towns. He recalled that he had been the Member who raised the issues of Dungannon in the original consultation in 2016. He emphasised, that wherever the lines were drawn, towns and hinterlands needed to be together. He further reflected that on a local level, Dungannon is in a better situation but would have no difficulty working with Members in relation to concerns raised but was emphatic that he did not want to go back to a situation when Dungannon town would be split in three.

Councillor Wilson said he found the discussion somewhat strange in that when Councillor Monteith drew attention to this in 2016 the issue was Dungannon town and how it was being divided up, yet within revised proposals this was not happening. He stated that if Council was now taking it outside of Mid Ulster context they would be setting a dangerous precedent.

The Chair, Councillor Ashton sought clarity from Councillor McGinley in relation to the proposal.

Councillor McGinley reiterated his proposal as undernoted

‘That Council send a letter to the Boundary Commission seeking clarification as to what basis they used to amend the boundaries from what was proposed in 2016 to the revised proposals detailed in the ‘2018 Review of Parliamentary Constituencies’

Councillor McGinley confirmed that he was speaking with regard to the complete proposals not a small section. Councillor McGinley emphasised that constituents had expressed concern to him with regard to the complete proposal presented by the Boundary Commission.

Councillor Cuthbertson stated that Council should be congratulating the Boundary Commission for NI for taking into consideration the concerns raised at the previous consultation. He emphasised that they had listened to Council and had rectified the concerns in relation to Dungannon.

Councillor Monteith asked what Members were being asked to vote on. In response the Chair, Councillor Ashton stated that the proposal was for a letter to ask why the proposals had changed.

Councillor Monteith was emphatic that he would not vote for Dungannon being split three ways.

Councillor McGinley declared that he was not proposing a way forward but merely expressing concern on behalf of the people who had come to him who were

concerned on how the proposals were affecting the whole of the north and they did not wish to go back to a gerrymandering state. Councillor McGinley concluded, saying that Council needed to look seriously at it.

The Chair, Councillor Ashton called for a vote on Councillor McGinley's proposal

For	17
Against	9

The Chair, Councillor Ashton declared the proposal as undernoted carried.

Proposed by Councillor McGinley
Seconded by Councillor Bell and

Resolved That Council send a letter to the Boundary Commission for NI seeking clarification as to what basis they used to amend the boundaries from what was proposed in 2016 to the revised proposals detailed in the '2018 Review of Parliamentary Constituencies.'

Resolved That Council, subject to the foregoing, note the consultations listed in the report.

C40/18 Correspondence

The Head of Democratic Services drew attention to the previously circulated report to update the Council on correspondence received from;

- Department for the Economy on the NI Registry of Credit Unions
- Mr D McCallan, Chief Executive, NILGA on Summary Product and Work Plan for 2018-19 and notification of the subscription for the period 2018-19

In response to the Chair, Councillor Ashton the Chief Executive advised that the Council had previously resolved to be a member of NILGA.

Resolved: The previously circulated paper on consultations notified to Mid Ulster District Council was noted.

C41/18 Request to Raise an Issue

In response to Councillor Clarke's request to raise an issue the Chair Councillor Ashton stated that she would not accept the request as it was not an item on the agenda.

Local Government (NI) Act 2014 - Confidential Business

Proposed by Councillor Burton

Seconded by Councillor J O'Neill and

Resolved: That items C41/18 - C52/18 be taken as confidential business.

- (i) Minutes taken as confidential business at Planning Committee held on Monday 8 January 2018
- (ii) Minutes taken as confidential business of Council meeting held on Thursday 25 January 2018
- (iii) Minutes taken as confidential business of Planning Committee held on Tuesday 6 February 2018
- (iv) Minutes taken as confidential business of Policy and Resources Committee held on Thursday 8 February 2018
- (v) Minutes taken as confidential business of Environment Committee held on Tuesday 13 February 2018
- (vi) Minutes taken as confidential business of Development Committee held on Thursday 15 February 2018
- (vii) Council's Compound Interest Claims

Documents for Sealing

- (i) Deed of Dedication – SIF Capital Build Programme for Moneymore Recreation Centre
- (ii) Mid Ulster District Council with ReGen Waste Limited: Articles of Agreement; Provision for the Receipt and Processing of Local Authority Collected Kerbside Comingle Recyclables
- (iii) Application for Rectification of Boundaries for Lands at Oaks Road, Dungannon

The press left the meeting at 7.21pm.

C53/18 Duration of Meeting

The meeting was called for 7pm and ended at 7.50pm

CHAIR _____

DATE _____