

**Minutes of Meeting of Environment Committee of Mid Ulster District Council
held on Tuesday 8 March 2016 in Council Offices, Burn Road, Cookstown**

Members Present	Councillor McFlynn (Chair) Councillors Buchanan, Burton (7.26 pm), Cuddy, Cuthbertson, Gillespie, Glasgow (7.09 pm), Kearney, McGinley, B McGuigan, S McGuigan, McNamee, Mullen, Mulligan, Totten
Officers in Attendance	Mr Cassells, Director of Environment and Property Mr Kelso, Director of Public Health and Infrastructure Mr Lowry, Head of Technical Services Mr McAdoo, Head of Environmental Services Mrs McClements, Head of Environmental Health Mr Scullion, Head of Property Services Mr Wilkinson, Head of Building Control Miss Thompson, Committee Services/ Senior Admin Officer
Others in Attendance	Councillor Bateson Agenda Item 4 – Beacon/Northern Ireland Association for Mental Health Ms Hughes – Living Well Living Longer Co-Ordinator

The meeting commenced at 7.04 pm

E57/16 Apologies

Councillor J O'Neill.

E58/16 Declarations of Interest

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

E59/16 Chair's Business

None.

E60/16 Beacon/Northern Ireland Association for Mental Health - Living Well Living Longer Service

The Chair, Councillor McFlynn welcomed Ms Hughes, Project Co-Ordinator of the Living Well Living Longer Service to the meeting.

Ms Hughes made a powerpoint presentation which provided detail on the Living Well Living Longer Service which is designed to help people over the age of 60 live safely and independently in their own communities. Services include:

- Befriending
- Home Safety
- Shopping and daily living tasks
- Signposting to other services
- Social inclusion activities

The service is currently based in Dungannon and is available in the Armagh, Dungannon, Lisburn and Newtownards areas to which clients can self refer or can be referred from partner organisations.

The service commenced in September 2013 and has exceeded all objectives, it has a growing reputation with partners and has received positive feedback. Ms Hughes also showed a video in which service users spoke of the positive impact the Living Well Living Longer project had made to their lives. Members were also advised that the service had recently received additional funding and will continue for a further year until September 2017.

Councillor Glasgow entered the meeting at 7.09 pm during the above presentation.

The Chair, Councillor McFlynn referred to the increasing ageing population in which loneliness is becoming an immense issue.

Councillor Cuddy asked if the facilities at the 'Junction Building' in Dungannon will give the capacity to deliver additional services.

Ms Hughes advised that the new facilities will provide a unique opportunity to deliver group meetings for the Dungannon area. Ms Hughes also spoke of the difficulties in recruiting volunteers for the befriending service.

Councillor McGinley asked what happens to clients when the 24 week befriending service comes to an end.

Ms Hughes advised that the aim of the befriending service is to enable the client to engage with groups in their community after the service period has come to an end.

Councillor McGinley referred to the difficulty in recruiting volunteers and asked if the service had looked at recruiting from youth organisations.

Ms Hughes advised that the service has engaged with numerous organisations and colleges in seeking volunteers and will continue to do so, the difficulty often encountered is getting a volunteer who can commit to a 24 week period. Ms Hughes advised that the Peer Buddy Friendship service has worked well especially in rural areas.

Councillor S McGuigan recognised the good service being provided and asked if there was a method of referral for over capacity.

Ms Hughes advised that due to the relative short term nature of the service there was a constant throughput of clients however there were waiting lists for some services in which case a matrix is used to prioritise users.

The Chair, Councillor McFlynn referred to the funding of the service and hoped that financing would continue.

Ms Hughes advised that a review of the service was currently being carried out. Ms Hughes felt that the service offered a good social return and was worthwhile funding.

Ms Hughes was thanked for her presentation following which she withdrew from the meeting at 7.24 pm.

E61/16 Receive and confirm minutes of the Environment Committee meeting held on Tuesday 9 February 2016

Proposed by Councillor McNamee
Seconded by Councillor Gillespie and

Resolved That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Environment Committee held on Tuesday 9 February 2016 (E26/16 – E43/16 and E56/16) were considered and, subject to the foregoing, signed as accurate and correct.

Matters for Decision

E62/16 Joint Waste Management Plan

Councillor F Burton entered the meeting at 7.26 pm.

The Head of Environmental Services presented previously circulated report which updated Members on the Joint Waste Management Plan for Mid Ulster District Council, Fermanagh and Omagh Council and Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council and sought approval for same.

Proposed by Councillor B McGuigan
Seconded by Councillor Buchanan and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to approve the adoption of the Joint Waste Management Plan.

E63/16 Off-Street Car Park – Temporary Market Trading (Magherafelt)

The Head of Property Services presented previously circulated report which updated Members on the temporary relocation of the weekly market from the Diamond in Magherafelt to Rainey Street public off-street car park. Members were also provided with an amended map of the proposed temporary location that will be used within the car park.

Proposed by Councillor McNamee
Seconded by Councillor B McGuigan and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to approve the designation of the spaces identified in Rainey Street Car Park Magherafelt, as set out in amended appendix to report, for the purposes of Street Trading each

Thursday (07:00 to 18:00) from 1 March 2016 until 30 September 2016, subject to review.

E64/16 Grounds Maintenance – Dungannon Rotary Club 60th Anniversary

The Head of Property Services presented previously circulated report in which Members were asked to consider a request from Dungannon Rotary Club for the installation of a floral display to mark the 60th anniversary of the local Rotary Club. The report identified the bedded area along the main gateway to Dungannon from the M1 as a possible location.

Councillor McNamee referred to the different working practices of the legacy councils and stated that there may be other organisations within the District who were celebrating anniversaries who had not been offered a similar opportunity. Councillor McNamee expressed the need for a policy going forward.

Councillor Cuddy stated the current tarpaulins at Stangmore had been in situ for numerous years and did not believe there was a big demand from outside organisations for their use. Councillor Cuddy felt that to refuse this request in order to create a policy would be a missed opportunity, the Councillor felt that Council should facilitate the current request and move to develop a policy for the future.

Councillor McNamee felt that if Council facilitates the current request a precedent would then be set for future.

Councillor Cuddy stated that the tarpaulin option would require little maintenance once it was in place.

In response to Councillor McFlynn's question the Head of Property Services advised that, in the past, the three beds were planted out but in recent times had been covered with a tarpaulin with a livery to promote Dungannon.

Councillor Cuthbertson did not feel TransportNI needed to be consulted in relation to the request as the beds were already in place. Councillor Cuthbertson agreed that there was a need for a policy going forward but that the current request should be considered under legacy Council procedures.

Councillor Cuddy stated that the Rotary Club is a strong organisation who raises a great deal of funding.

Councillor McGinley did not feel Council should pay for this request as in effect the Rotary Club would receive free advertising. The Councillor felt that if the current request is facilitated Council will be inundated with further similar requests. Councillor McGinley also stated the need for a policy.

Councillor Cuddy proposed that Council proceed with putting in place a tarpaulin display in one of the three flower beds situated at Stangmore.

Councillor McNamee reiterated the need for a policy to be put in place before agreeing to the current request.

Councillor Cuthbertson seconded Councillor Cuddy's proposal.

Councillor Burton felt it would be negative of Council not to agree to the request from the Rotary Club. The Councillor also suggested that the Rotary Club could seek their own sponsorship of the proposed flower bed.

Councillor Kearney felt that Council should grant the current request but seek to have policy in place for future.

Councillor McNamee proposed that Council have policy in place before granting any requests.

Members voted on Councillor Cuddy's proposal, including seeking contribution from Rotary Club –

For	8
Against	6

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to proceed with putting in place a tarpaulin display at one of the three flower beds at Stangmore to promote the 60th anniversary of the local Rotary Club and that a contribution be sought from the Rotary Club for same.

E65/16 Grounds Maintenance Awards Submissions 2016/17

Members considered previously circulated report which sought approval for town and village nominations to the NIAC Best Kept Awards and Ulster in Bloom 2016.

Councillor Cuthbertson referred to grassy bank on approach to Linen Green in Moygashel which would lend itself to flower bedding sponsorship.

The Head of Property Services advised that the Councillor's comments could be considered as part of the sponsorship of gateways.

Councillor Cuddy suggested that Council make contact with local business owner Patrick Heffron, Director of Neptune Group regarding sponsorship.

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to approve the nominations to both the Best Kept Awards and Ulster in Bloom 2016 as listed in report.

E66/16 Grounds Maintenance – Delivery Standards 2016

Members considered previously circulated report which sought approval to establish Grounds Maintenance delivery standards for the 2016 'growing season' to aid service consistency.

Councillor Glasgow requested that Orritor be included on schedule of maintenance to roadside grass verges referring to Cookstown 100 and Orritor Fair.

The Head of Property Services stated that the verges would be maintained as per the standard set out in the report.

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to adopt Grounds Maintenance Delivery Standards 2016 as detailed in report and appendices as presented.

E67/16 TransportNI proposals to Mid Ulster District Council

Members considered previously circulated report regarding proposals from TransportNI to introduce measures to enhance safety and development of the transport network with a range of transport projects.

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to endorse the proposals submitted by TransportNI as follows –

- Proposed Traffic Calming – Lettice Street, Aughnacloy
- Proposed Traffic Calming – Benburb Road, Moy

Councillor Burton referred to resurfacing works currently ongoing in Aughnacloy and advised of the intention not to reinstate markings for trading pitches. The Councillor felt that it was important that these markings be reinstated.

Councillor Mullen stated that she had met with the local community association who were seeking to revive Aughnacloy market.

The Director of Environment and Property advised that the resurfacing work in Aughnacloy was being carried out by TransportNI and advised that he would seek reinstatement of the markings.

E68/16 Commonwealth War Graves Commission Signage: Cookstown Cemetery

Members considered previously circulated report which sought approval to allow the Commonwealth War Graves Commission to erect signage at Cookstown Cemetery indicating that war graves are contained within the Cemetery.

Proposed by Councillor Buchanan
Seconded by Councillor Cuthbertson and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council that the Commonwealth War Graves Commission be permitted to erect 'Green Visitor Signs' at the entrances to Cookstown Cemetery.

E69/16 Regulatory Information and Management System (RIAMS)

The Head of Environmental Health presented previously circulated report seeking approval to access a regulatory information and management system (RIAMS) for the Environmental Health Service for Mid Ulster District Council for a three year period through RH Environmental.

Proposed by Councillor Gillespie
Seconded by Councillor B McGuigan and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to sign a three year licence agreement with RH Environmental Ltd to access the RIAMS System at a cost of £6,000 per year.

E70/16 Extension to Service Level Agreements relating to Health and Wellbeing Services

The Head of Environmental Health presented previously circulated report which sought approval to extend interim Service Level Agreements.

Proposed by Councillor McGinley
Seconded by Councillor Kearney and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to –

- Extend the Service Level Agreement with Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council for the provision of Public Health funded services until 31 March 2017.
- Extend the Service Level Agreement with Mid and East Antrim Borough Council for the provision of Public Health funded Tobacco control work up until 31 March 2017 and provision of specialist Environmental Health support.

In response to Councillor S McGuigan's question the Head of Environmental Health advised that the group system was no longer in existence and that staff from group had been absorbed into the new Councils.

Councillor S McGuigan asked if Council had made provision for the absorption of these staff.

The Head of Environmental Health advised that the Service Level Agreements were not for the transfer of staff but to carry out the service of the Agreement.

E71/16 Street Trading Fees

The Head of Environmental Health presented previously circulated report regarding the review of fees for applications for Street Trading licences.

Proposed by Councillor McGinley
Seconded by Councillor Cuddy and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council that fees for 2016/17 remain as follows -

- Stationary Trader - £205 (£135 refundable in event of licence not being issued)
- Mobile Trader - £205 (£135 refundable in event of licence not being issued)
- Temporary Trader - £55
- Variation of Licence - £70

Licences to trade at designated civic events will be charged at £25 per licence, this licence will last up to seven days.

E72/16 Street Naming and Property Numbering

Members considered previously circulated report regarding the naming of new residential housing developments within Mid Ulster as follows –

1 Site off Loughview Road, Coalisland

Proposed by Councillor Gillespie
Seconded by Councillor Mullen and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to name new development off Loughview Road, Coalisland as Pinebank Gardens.

2 Site off Main Street, Castledawson

Proposed by Councillor Kearney
Seconded by Councillor B McGuigan and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to name new development off Main Street, Castledawson as Shanemullagh Court.

3 Site off Main Street, Bellaghy

Proposed by Councillor B McGuigan
Seconded by Councillor Kearney and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to name new development off Main Street, Bellaghy as Poet's Lane.

E73/16 Approval of Premises for Civil Marriages and Civil Partnerships

The Head of Building Control presented previously circulated report in relation to the approval of premises for Civil Marriages and/or Civil Partnerships.

Proposed by Councillor McNamee
Seconded by Councillor McGinley and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council adopt the 'Guidance for the requirements and conditions for approved premises for Civil Marriages and/or Civil Partnerships.' A fee of £80 will also now be charged for the application of variation to place approval.

In response to Councillor Cuddy's question the Head of Building Control advised that he would investigate and report back to the Councillor whether there is a charge for the Registrar to attend premises for Civil Marriages and/or Civil Partnerships.

Matters for Information

E74/16 Entertainment Licensing Applications

Members noted previously circulated report which provided an update on Entertainment Licensing Applications across Mid Ulster District Council.

E75/16 Building Control Report

Members noted previously circulated report which provided an update on the workload analysis for Building Control across Mid Ulster District Council.

Confidential Business

Proposed by Councillor S McGuigan
Seconded by Councillor Cuthbertson and

Resolved That items E76/16 – E89/16 be taken as confidential business.

E90/16 Duration of Meeting

The meeting was called for 7.00 pm and ended at 9.53 pm.

CHAIR _____

DATE _____