

A

Minutes of Meeting of Mid Ulster District Council held on Thursday 22 September 2016 in the Council Offices, Circular Road, Dungannon

Chair: Councillor Wilson, Chair

Members Present: Councillors Ashton, Bateson, Bell, Buchanan, Burton, Clarke, Cuddy, Cuthbertson, Doris, Elattar, Forde, Gildernew, Gillespie, Glasgow, Kearney, Mallaghan, McAleer, McEldowney, McFlynn, McGinley, B McGuigan, S McGuigan, McKinney, McLean, McPeake, Molloy, Monteith (7.04pm) , Mulligan, J O'Neill, M Quinn, T Quinn, Reid, Robinson, J Shiels, G Shiels, and Totten

Officers in Attendance: Mr Tohill, Chief Executive
Ms Campbell, Director of Culture and Leisure
Ms Canavan, Director of Organisational Development
Mr Cassells, Director of Environment and Property
Mrs Forde, Member Support Officer
Mr Kelso, Director of Public Health and Infrastructure
Mr McCreesh, Director of Business and Communities
Ms Mezza, Head of Marketing and Communications
Mr Moffett Head of Democratic Services
Mr Tohill, Director of Finance

The meeting commenced at 7pm

C195/16 Apologies

Councillors McNamee, Mullen and C O'Neill.

Suspension of Standing Orders

Proposed by Chair Councillor Wilson
Seconded by Councillor McGinley and

Resolved That Standing Orders be suspended to discuss proposals to close Cookstown Social Security Office and Cookstown Job Centre.

C196/16 Proposals to Close Cookstown Social Security Office and Cookstown Job Centre

The Chair, Councillor Wilson referred to the proposals to close Cookstown Social Security Office and Cookstown Job Centre and stated that as a Cookstown Councillor he totally opposed the reduction of public sector services in rural areas. He advised that Cookstown and the Mid Ulster district was a rural population which totalled 141,000 people of which 38,000 were from Cookstown area and that the government needed to reflect on the impact such a proposal would have on the most vulnerable which in turn would impact on Citizen Advice services endeavouring to provide support. The Chair advised that the Department had indicated that the impact would be mitigated by increased use of technology together with other offices

and further advised that Cookstown had a poor public transport network, broadband was below the standard of other areas thus neither would be a viable alternative option. He acknowledged that the Department of Communities had stated there was no plan for redundancies but the Chair drew attention to the fact staff may have to travel long distances to work and that the announcements with regard to Dungannon and Magherafelt offices were still pending. The Chair made reference to the fact that Cookstown had been designated as a rural hub yet this decision was a policy contradiction and failure of a 'joint-up' strategy. Stating that the Minister Paul Givan MLA had announced new jobs based in Belfast and Armagh the Chair posed the question why consideration had not been given to rural communities. The Chair proposed that Council seek an urgent meeting with the Minister for Communities and respond to the consultation document opposing the aforementioned proposals.

Councillor Bateson drew attention to the fact that the rural proofing study had not been completed and proposed that Council seek a suspension to the consultation process until the study was completed.

Councillor Monteith arrived at 7.04 pm

Councillor T Quinn concurred with the Chair's comments and stated that both offices were well placed and that those living in rural areas of Cookstown may have difficulty getting to Cookstown let alone having to travel further to Dungannon or Magherafelt. The Councillor quoted a sentence from a letter received by NI Civil Service staff regarding the consultation which stated "*claimants will be able to attend any other office suitable to them...*" yet there was no mention as to whether they had a car, were able-bodied, if there was a suitable bus route. Councillor T Quinn concluded by stating that in excess of 1000 of the users were between 50 and 59, many in their 60s and 70s and made reference to Section 75.

Councillor Glasgow concurred with Councillor T Quinn and emphasised that a vital service was being removed from a rural community and that people of Cookstown were outraged. The Councillor made reference to a press statement regarding staff and a meeting with Mid Ulster MLA's with the Minister for Communities at which it had been stated there would be staff relocations but no redundancies, yet the fact remained that the local area was losing vital knowledge together with top quality service.

Councillor Buchanan stated that the DUP MLA for the area had made representation to the Minister and emphasised that Cookstown had already lost out on public sector jobs in the closure of the DARD office, the Rates Collection Agency, and the Courthouse and emphasised that Council should be lobbying for local offices in Cookstown.

Councillor McGinley concurred with both the proposal made by the Chair and by Councillor Bateson. He stated that there were issues with regard to non-communication with staff and emphasised that Council wanted offices whereby the public could have face to face service in the area. Councillor McGinley stated that Sinn Féin had requested a meeting with the Minister and again supported the proposal of Councillor Bateson.

Councillor Wilson sought approval for his proposal together with the proposal from Councillor Bateson,

Councillor McLean stressed the value and importance of face to face negotiation.

Proposed by Councillor Wilson
Seconded by Councillor Bateson and

Resolved That Council

- (i) Seek a meeting with the Minister for Communities to discuss the proposals to close the Cookstown Social Security Office and Cookstown Job Centre;
- (ii) Seek a suspension to the consultation process until the rural proofing study has been completed; and
- (iii) Respond to the consultation document opposing the proposal to close the Cookstown Social Security Office and Cookstown Job Centre.

C197/16 Declarations of Interest

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

Councillor Mulligan declared an interest in Aughnacloy College and Dungannon Hockey Club.

Councillor Burton declared an interest in Aughnacloy College and Dungannon Hockey club

The Chair Councillor Wilson declared an interest in Cookstown Hockey Club of which his son was a member.

C198/16 Chair's Business

Councillor Cuthbertson requested that Council offer congratulations to Castlecaulfield Horticultural Society on their recent success in Ulster in Bloom and wish them well in the forthcoming Britain in Bloom competition. The Councillor made reference to sports grants which awards funding to people representing the district in other jurisdictions and asked if Officers would investigate if a similar grant could be made available for the representatives of Castlecaulfield Horticultural Society who, at personal expense, were traveling to England to represent Castlecaulfield. The Chair Councillor Wilson concurred and requested that Officers investigate the matter and report back to Members.

Councillor McAleer requested a civic reception for Peter McKenna representative of Clogher Valley Comhaltas who achieved first place in the Uileann Pipes Under-15 competition at the All Ireland Fleadh. The Councillor further requested a letter of

acknowledgement be forwarded to members of Clogher Valley Comhaltas who had been placed at the All Ireland Fleadh.

- 2nd Place Winners
Uileann Pipes slow airs : Peter McKenna
Senior piano Accordion : Ryan Hackett
Duet u15 Una and Aoife McGlinchey
- 3rd Place Winners
Trio U 18 James, Sinead and Peter McKenna
U-12 fiddle: Maeve McGlinchey
U-15 Fiddle Una McGlinchey
U-18 Ceili Band
U 15 Ladies English singing Bronagh Scallon
U15 Ladies Irish singing Dearbla Scallon
Senior Sean Nós dancing : Arlene McCarroll

Councillor B McGuigan requested a civic reception for Buncran Tug of War team who won silver medal in the World Championship in Sweden.

Councillor Gillespie concurred with previous comments regarding Castlecaulfield Horticultural Society and requested that a letter also be forwarded to Donaghmore Horticultural Society for their success in the Ulster in Bloom competition.

Councillor M Quinn requested a Civic reception for Ardboe ladies on winning the Tyrone Ladies Intermediate Championship.

Councillor Burton requested a civic reception for Raymond Orr who was recently crowned the champion at the Scale the Heights' UK Masters, one of the UK's leading Cross Fit competitions. The Councillor also requested a civic reception to acknowledge the work of the Arthritis Research Charity shop in Aughnacloy. Councillor Burton also expressed her delight at the approval of the Reuse Scheme at Drumcoo Recycling Centre.

Councillor Burton also concurred with comments with regard to Castlecaulfield Horticultural Society and Donaghmore Horticultural Society stating that they had paid a tremendous tribute to Council and its staff.

Councillor Reid concurred with comments regarding Castlecaulfield Horticultural Society and Donaghmore Horticultural Society and proposed that the Chair join the delegation travelling to Britain in Bloom. The Chair, Councillor Wilson advised he would consider the matter.

Councillor McFlynn requested a civic reception for Glen Ladies who won the Division One Championship, Moneymore ladies who won the Junior Cup, Ballymaguigan Ladies who won the Division One, League and Championship and the Ballymaguigan Under-14s who won the County Championship.

Councillor McFlynn also requested that a letter of acknowledgement be forwarded to Monsignor O'Byrne who had celebrated his last Mass in the Magherafelt parish after 56 years of service.

Councillor McAleer concurred with the previous comments paying tribute to Castlecaulfield and Donaghmore Horticultural Societies stating that the villages were beautiful to drive through.

The Chair, Councillor Wilson advised that the Audit Committee on 20 September 2016 had approved the MUDC financial statements for year ended 31 March 2016 and also the SWARD financial statements for period ended 30 September 2015.

Proposed by Councillor McPeake
Seconded by Councillor Mallaghan and

Resolved That Council approve the MUDC financial statements for year ended 31 March 2016 and also the SWARD financial statements for period ended 30 September 2015.

C198/16 Receive and consider minutes of matters transacted in "Open Business" at the Council meeting held on Thursday 25 August 2016

Proposed by Councillor Buchanan
Seconded by Councillor Bateson and

Resolved That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on Thursday 25 August 2016 (C173/16 – C181/16 and C194/16), transacted in "Open Business" having been printed and circulated were considered and signed as accurate and correct.

C199/16 Receive and consider the minutes and recommendations of matters transacted in "Open Business" at the Planning Committee held on Tuesday 6 September 2016

Councillor McAleer requested an amendment to the first paragraph of page 8 to read, "Councillor McAleer said that living conditions wasn't viably feasible due to dampness and that she was aware of other houses being left in similar condition which would create long term problems, but that there was a need for enhancing and saving the character of the village."

Councillor Cuthbertson advised he had requested an update with regard to planning application LA09/2016/0981 25 - additional car parking bays at site at Gulladuff Road, 50m N of Main street, Bellaghy. He also sought clarification as to where the budget allocation of £24k had come from and how much to date had been spent on Bellaghy.

In response the Chief Executive advised that Transport NI issues had been resolved. With regard to the Bellaghy project expenses to date, the Chief Executive advised

that all was within agreed budget of the contract together with the £250k additional budget agreed by Council to improve café and performance space.

The Director of Public Health and Infrastructure advised that the carpark at Bellaghy had been agreed through an Environmental Improvement Scheme in the village of which the value of the contract was £92k and that the £24k for the carpark was being funded through the economic development section of the Business and Communities department. Councillor Cuthbertson stated that it was good to know some departments can allocate money at the drop of a hat.' The Councillor further requested that Councillors be issued with a paper detailing the exact detail which had been agreed with Transport NI in relation to application LA09/2016/0981 25. The Chief Executive agreed that a paper be issued to Members.

Proposed by Councillor J Shiels
Seconded by Councillor Glasgow and

Resolved That the Minutes and recommendations of the Planning Committee meeting held on Tuesday 6 September 2016 (P149/16 – P155/16 and P159/16) transacted in “Open Business”, having been printed and circulated, subject to the foregoing, were considered and adopted.

Councillor Mulligan sought clarification as to how the Planning Department ensured the authenticity of correspondence received with particular regard to letters of objection and referred to an incident which had occurred within his district electoral area. The Chief Executive advised that an email would be issued to members to clarify procedures in relation to letters of objection.

C200/16 **Receive and consider the minutes and recommendations of matters transacted in “Open Business” at the Policy and Resources Committee meeting held on Thursday 9 September 2016**

Proposed by Councillor Gildernew
Seconded by Councillor McPeake and

Resolved That the Minutes and recommendations of the Policy and Resources Committee meeting held on Thursday 9 September 2016, (PR153/16 – PR163/16 and PR172/16), transacted in “Open Business”, having been printed and circulated, were considered and adopted.

C202/16 **Receive and consider the minutes and recommendations of matters transacted in “Open Business” at the Environment Committee held on Tuesday 13 September 2016**

Proposed by Councillor Cuthbertson
Seconded by Councillor S McGuigan and

Resolved That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Environment Committee held on Tuesday 13 September 2016 (E204/16 – E226/16 and E237/16),

transacted in “Open Business” having been printed and circulated were considered and signed as accurate and correct.

C202/16 Receive and consider the minutes and recommendations of matters transacted in “Open Business” at the Development Committee meeting held on Thursday 15 September 2016

Councillor Cuthbertson sought clarification as to why Ballynakelly village had been omitted from the Festive Lighting table. The Director of Business and Communities stated that he would investigate the reason and advise accordingly.

Councillor Burton requested an amendment to the minute and that line four of the first paragraph of page 12 be amended to read “Council pitch spends most of its time waterlogged” and the 10th line be amended to read, “Aughnacloy High School in with the two other schools”

Councillor Monteith declared an interest in item D201/16 Sports Grants advising that he was a committee member of Thomas Clarke’s GFC who had been awarded a grant.

Councillor Monteith suggested that grant recipients should be named in the minutes.

Proposed by Councillor Molloy

Seconded by Councillor Cuddy and

Resolved That the Minutes and recommendations of the Development Committee meeting held on Thursday 15 September 2016, (D191/16 – D209/16 and D213/16) transacted in “Open Business”, having been printed and circulated, were considered and adopted.

C203/16 Conferences and Seminars

The Head of Democratic Services referred to details of the undernoted conferences and sought approval for the attendance of Members and Council officers, the payment of attendance fees and associated costs as incurred.

- (i) The Future of Cross Border Co-operation on the island of Ireland, between the island and Great Britain and beyond
 - Monday 10 October 2016, NI Executive Office, Brussels
- (ii) The Business of Leadership
 - Wednesday 28 September 2016, 9am to 1pm, Ranfurly House Arts & Visitors Centre, Dungannon
- (iii) Outcomes and Impact: A Global OBA Summit
 - Monday 10 October and Tuesday 11 October, 9am to 5pm Belfast Waterfront Hall.
- (iv) Officer Approvals

Conference & Seminar	Date	Officer Attending	Location	Attendance Fee (Yes/No)
The Business of Leadership	28 Sept	Head of Community Services & Leisure Services	Ranfurly House Arts and Visitor Centre	Yes
NILGA Annual Conference	6 October	Chief Executive, Head of Democratic Services Two officers	Everglades Hotel, Derry/Londonderry	Yes
Outcomes and Impact: A Global OBA Summit	10-11 Oct	Community Planning Co-ordinator	Waterfront, Belfast	Yes
CIPFA NI Annual Conference	11 October	Head of Finance	Belfast	Yes
NI Planning Conference	13 October	Planning Officer	Belfast	Yes
RTPI Young Planners Conference	14-15 October	Planning Officer	Belfast	Yes
Excellence in Local Government Conference	26 October	Head of Environmental Health	Templepatrick	No
RTPI Planning Conference	15 November	4 Planning Officers	Belfast	Yes

Proposed by Councillor J Shiels
Seconded by Councillor Bateson 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 or officers

C204/16 Leisure Services Support for Schools

The Director of Culture and Leisure drew Members attention to the previously circulated report drawing attention to the background, estimated costings and options for consideration for aiding schools which provide floodlit synthetic pitch facilities in communities. The Director outlined the estimated costs for each of the projects at Royal School Dungannon (utilised by Dungannon Ladies Hockey Club), Aghnacloy College, Moy Shared Campus and a request from Cookstown Hockey Club. It was noted that in preparing the report officers had researched other models and looked at various options for going forward emphasising that the Council support provided historically was difficult to sustain across the district. The Director outlined options for moving forward school sports facilities support.

Councillor Ashton stated that the four organisations outlined within the report were very different. Referring to Dungannon Hockey Club the Councillor reminded Members that she had referred to a letter at the August meeting of Council which highlighted a number of issues being faced by the Club. The issues included that now that the Service Level Agreement had ended with The Royal School, Dungannon the hockey club had been left with no base. The Councillor reminded Members that the legacy Council had initiated the SLA with the school at a time when it had moved the hockey club from the former Drumcoo site, she also referred to a meeting which together with Councillor Burton she had attended with Council Officers and had anticipated a more succinct monthly report and emphasised that discussion was needed to reinstate the hockey club back at the Royal School site, Dungannon.

With reference to the situation at Aghnacloy Councillor Ashton expressed disappointment that the matter had not been dealt with at the Development Committee and that there had been a time delay in presenting facts to Members. Councillor Ashton outlined the history of the project and detailed revised estimates on the costs such as 50% maintenance per annum £2750, staffing approximately £20k, floodlighting £3120 and anticipated income. Councillor Ashton advised that the cost to Council to secure a £600k capital investment into the community was £2750 per annum with £70k required for 50% of costs for future carpet replacement which would not be required for 12-14 years. It was also noted that as years progressed carpet prices may fall as new style carpets may be introduced to the market place. The Councillor advised of the local community organisation commitment stating that 15 organisations had pledged support but emphasised there was no mention of this within the report. Councillor Ashton sought support to bring the project to fruition for Council to partner with the community to run and manage the site and stated that she believed the Education Authority would permit the community to run the facility.

Councillor Ashton referred to the other projects again stating that they required investigation but that the report lacked information.

Councillor Cuthbertson concurred with the comments of Councillor Ashton and stated that it was a sad day if Council put in jeopardy a £600k project. Councillor Cuthbertson in relation to Dungannon Hockey club emphasised that they had been relocated from Drumcoo to the Royal School under a SLA, the club had three teams out each Saturday, trained twice a week and coached junior players and for Council to walk away from this commitment also was another example of how people were worse off in Mid Ulster Council.

Councillor Cuthbertson proposed that Council support Dungannon Hockey club through SLA as had been done by the legacy Council.

Councillor Clarke left the meeting at 7.50pm

Councillor Molloy stated that it was unfortunate that the proposals and opportunities had been grouped together as it was a major investment which required detailed thinking. The Councillor stated that he had sympathy for Dungannon Hockey Club but also emphasised that the Moy area had neither a playpark nor sports pitch provided by Council.

Councillor Clarke returned to the meeting at 7.53pm

Councillor Burton expressed concern that the three individual projects had been grouped together for consideration and highlighted that Aughnacloy project was the only one with capital investment. The Councillor stated that the community had identified the need and had worked collectively to secure the funding through Peace and emphasised that the money must be spent by 31 March 2017 or lost. Councillor Burton stated that Council had consulted with the community and now appeared to be opposing the project due to officer delay in presenting reports and reminded Members that the Council provided pitch in the area was not fit for purpose as it was waterlogged most of the winter.

Councillor S McGuigan sought clarity in relation to the 50% carpet replacement costs and asked if Council did this in any other projects.

The Director of Culture and Leisure stated that in Dungannon the £24k per annum included a contribution towards future carpet replacements and that the Education Authority had indicated that this was standard in similar contracts with other schools.

In response to Councillor S McGuigan's comments as to whether such projects could be dealt with through Village Plans or Sports Strategy the Director of Culture and Leisure stated that Council was preparing a draft strategy for sport but was currently awaiting the Northern Ireland Strategy for Sport following which there would be consultation process and discussion with Members.

Councillor McAleer stated that geographically Aughnacloy was situated 12 miles from its nearest leisure facility and emphasised that £600k was available for the project

and that it would be a shame if Council did not support the cross community effort which had been made to bring the project to this stage.

Councillor Robinson concurred with previous speakers stating that it was vital that the project was supported which would provide a 3G pitch in Aughnacloy. He emphasised that there was activities all year round and organisations could not use the pitch as it was regularly waterlogged. Councillor Robinson stated that it was scandalous that Council had not committed to the project when £600k funding had been secured.

Councillor J Shiels expressed concern regarding the reporting style used to present the three projects and indeed that they had been grouped together. He emphasised that non Members of the Development Committee were unaware of previous discussion and made reference to the staffing costs reported emphasising that there was no mention within the report of the community organisation commitment for the project. Councillor J Shiels emphasised that £2750 was required that is 50% maintenance cost per annum to secure £600k investment for the area and yet again stressed his disappointment at the report content. He further highlighted charges for floodlights and stated they were not required 24 hours per day, 7 days per week.

Councillor Cuddy concurred with previous speakers and stated that Council talked often about working with schools and sharing their facilities and that the legacy Council in Dungannon had done this when possible. He emphasised that Council should endeavour to work where there was opportunities and that Council did not always need to be the major funder but should endeavour to make projects happen. Councillor Cuddy expressed disappointment on the information presented in relation to Dungannon Hockey Club SLA emphasising that they did not want to own their own pitch and were quite happy to share facilities with the Royal School Dungannon. Councillor Cuddy stated that it would be a bad legacy for Mid Ulster District Council if the issues were not resolved.

Councillor Burton made reference to the August meeting of Council when Members had lambasted government departments for under investment in the area and now it appeared Council was blocking £600k investment. Councillor Burton also emphasised the community commitment to the project naming 15 organisations including schools, scouts, football and Gaelic clubs who had all pledged support for the project.

The Director of Culture and Leisure advised that following the September Development Committee Council had been in consultation with the Education Authority and it was understood that the Authority expected Council to both staff and manage the proposed facility. This would include evenings and all day Monday to Saturday throughout summer holidays and that the costings detailed within the report had been estimated based on knowledge and costs of similar facilities. It was noted that actual costs would not be known until the facility was open.

Councillor Molloy requested that the proposals be considered individually.

Councillor M Quinn left the meeting at 8.08pm

Councillor Ashton stated that with regard to staffing the facility a conversation needed to be had with all stakeholders and emphasised that the people of Aughnacloy would play a major role.

The Chair, Councillor Wilson stated that there were two good hockey teams in the region yet Council made no provision for hockey as it did for other sports. He advised that the Cookstown Club played within the premier league and also had a coaching programme for juniors. The Chair stated that the options highlighted in the report would rule Cookstown Hockey Club out as they owned their own pitch and emphasised that one hockey club would be receiving support whilst the other one in the district wouldn't. Stating that the decision on the Aughnacloy project was vital and should be taken this evening the Chair stated that the others should be treated as matters of urgency with proposals at the October meeting of Development committee.

Councillor Robinson left the meeting at 8.09pm

Councillor M Quinn returned to the meeting at 8.10pm

Councillor J Shiels concurred with the suggestion of the Chair and proposed that;

- (i) Approval be granted to progress SLA to provide floodlit Synthetic Pitch Sports facilities, Aughnacloy; and
- (ii) Report to be presented to Development committee regarding service level agreement in relation to Floodlit Synthetic Pitch Sports Facility within community of Moy, Dungannon Hockey Club and Cookstown Hockey Club

Councillor Cuthbertson withdrew his earlier proposal and seconded the proposal made by Councillor J Shiels.

Councillor Glasgow stated that the Aughnacloy project must go ahead as it would not reflect well on Council if it did not and agreed that the other projects be investigated further.

The Chair Councillor Wilson outlined the proposal to be approved.

The Chief Executive sought clarity on what was being proposed and the figures required to progress the Aughnacloy project.

Councillor J Shiels stated that there appeared to be problems with the information presented within the report.

Councillor Ashton stated that the figures were presented to the development committee and confirmed that it was £2750 per annum which reflected 50% of maintenance costs and £71k in relation to 50% costs of carpet replacement over a 12-14 year period.

Proposed by Councillor J Shiels
Seconded by Councillor Cuthbertson and

- Resolved** That
- (i) approval be granted to progress SLA to provide floodlit Synthetic Pitch Sports facilities, Aughnacloy; and;
 - (ii) report be presented to Development committee regarding service level agreement in relation to Floodlit Synthetic Pitch Sports Facility within community of Moy, Dungannon Hockey Club and Cookstown Hockey Club

Councillor Ashton expressed her thanks to all of the political parties who had worked together to deliver for the people.

Matters for Information

C205/16 Consultations notified to Mid Ulster District Council

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

- Resolved** That the consultations contained within the previously circulated report be noted

C206/16 Correspondence to Council

The previously circulated paper on correspondence to Council was noted.

- Resolved** That the correspondence contained within the previously circulated report be noted

Councillor Ashton left the meeting at 8.15pm

Confidential Business

Proposed by Councillor J Shiels
Seconded by Councillor T Quinn and

- Resolved** That items C207/16- C211/16 be taken as confidential business.

The press left the meeting at 8.15 pm

C212/16 Duration of Meeting

The meeting was called for 7pm and ended at 8.20pm

CHAIR _____

DATE _____

B

Minutes of Special Meeting of Mid Ulster District Council held on Thursday 22 September 2016 in the Council Offices, Circular Road, Dungannon

Members Present: Councillor Wilson (Chair)

Councillors Ashton, Bateson, Burton, Clarke, Cuddy, Cuthbertson, Doris, Forde, Gillespie, Glasgow, Kearney, Mallaghan, McAleer, McFlynn, McGinley, S McGuigan, McKinney, McLean, Molloy, T Quinn, Robinson, J Shiels, G Shiels,

Officers in Attendance: Mr A Tohill, Chief Executive
Mr Kelso, Director of Public Health and Infrastructure
Mr McCreesh, Director of Business and Communities
Mr Moffett Head of Democratic Services
Mrs Forde, Member Support Officer

In Attendance: **Agenda Item 3 Northern Ireland Housing Executive**

Mr Paul Isherwood	Director of Asset Management
Mr Comghal McQuillan	South Regional Manager
Ms Ailbhe Hickey	Head of South Place Shaping
Mr Michael Dallat	Area Manager

Agenda Item 4 Clanmil Housing Association

Ms Colette Moore, Group Director of Housing

The meeting commenced at 8.30 pm

SC24/16 Apologies

Councillors Bell Buchanan, Elattar, Gildernew, McEldowney, B McGuigan, McNamee, McPeake, Monteith, Mullen, Mulligan, C O'Neill, J O'Neill, M Quinn, Reid and Totten

SC25/16 Declarations of Interest

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

SC26/16 Northern Ireland Housing Executive

The Chair, Councillor Wilson welcomed representatives from Northern Ireland Housing Executive (NIHE) to the meeting. Mr Isherwood introduced representatives and made a presentation regarding the Mid Ulster Housing Investment Plan 2016 update previously issued to Members and indicated that feedback regarding the Housing Investment Plan would be welcome.

The Chair, Councillor Wilson thanked Mr Isherwood for the presentation and invited Members questions.

Councillor S McGuigan referred to the travelling community and asked when the last needs assessment had been carried out in the Mid Ulster region. In response Mr McQuillan advised that a province wide assessment had been undertaken and that most of the need is met through social housing stock and further advised that there were halting sites in Craigavon, Derry, Daisyfield and Glen Road, Belfast which has fallen due to lack of use.

In response to Councillor McKinney's question regarding £6m spend Mr McQuillan clarified that expenditure in relation to maintenance on social housing stock in the Mid Ulster area.

Councillor Molloy stated that although housing stress was alluded to there was no detail on how long it had been ongoing and what the measures were to address it both in the short term or long-term. In response Mr McQuillan stated that the detail provided was a snap shot, that within some areas of Mid Ulster people could be housed relatively quickly, but for example, in Dungannon there was more stress on waiting lists. Mr McQuillan acknowledged that increased housing stock was required and also advised that there were pressure points on housing provision in Coalisland and Cookstown but Dungannon was the main area for housing stress. Mr McQuillan referred to statistics within the report which provided detail on allocation of housing.

Councillor Bateson referred to members of the travelling community in Toomebridge who were camped illegally and advised the meeting that no one had spoken to them regarding their needs and asked why they had not been consulted during the needs assessment. The Councillor stated that their needs could not be met through social housing stock that transit sites were needed and the onus was on the NIHE to address the needs of the travelling community and the assessment of such to be reported. In response Mr McQuillan advised transit sites were not as popular as they had once been and in many areas the usage had dropped drastically, he acknowledged the difficulty in carrying out a totally comprehensive analysis. Councillor Bateson stated that the situation in Toomebridge had been ongoing for many years and commitment was needed.

Councillor McLean thanked the NIHE representatives and expressed appreciation with regard to staff in the Magherafelt NIHE office with whom he had daily dealings. Councillor McLean sought clarity on the undernoted:

- Infrastructure problems such as manhole covers lifting after heavy deluge of rain in Westland area of Magherafelt and problems with the sewage infrastructure and water mains;
- Lack of parking in housing estates creating problems for vehicular access for refuse vehicles, emergency services etc.
- Pensioners dwellings being allocated to families; and
- Time delay in relation to Disability Grants scheme causing undue stress.

Councillor Clarke left the meeting at 8.45pm.

In response to Councillor McLean's queries Mr McQuillan advised that a major modernisation programme had been carried out in Mid Ulster from early 1980's to

2008 during which aging sewers were replaced. With regard to water mains Mr McQuillan acknowledged they were an issue for NI Water and although they had carried out works if there were problems they should be reported to NIHE and NI Water.

Councillor Ashton left the meeting at 8.55pm

In relation to car parking Mr McQuillan advised that many of the estates had been built in the 1950s and 1960s when cars were not as plentiful. He advised that if NIHE owned 50% of the properties where feasible they introduced laybys or turning circles. However if NIHE owned less than 50% money was sought from Transport NI to try to alleviate the problems. Councillor McLean outlined solutions he was aware of in England whereby parking bays were painted on the road on alternate sides and people were not permitted to back outside of a bay. The Councillor stated that there was much talk about joint up government but often departments did not communicate. Mr McQuillan stated that a major issue in many housing estates was that NIHE properties were between 10% and 30% and private property owners were reluctant to get involved.

With regard to pensioners dwellings Mr McQuillan advised that law dictated that an allocation of a property had to go to the person with the highest number of points although NIHE endeavoured to match properties to suitable tenants.

In response to Councillor McLean's comments regarding the grants process Mr McQuillan acknowledged that it was a lengthy process but did refer to annual update statistics which detailed £770k of approved grants in the Mid Ulster area during 2105/16.

Councillor Doris left the meeting at 9.02pm

In response to Councillor G Shiels question regarding sale of properties to private tenants Mr McQuillan advised that in order to protect its housing stock NIHE had to change its policies and discretion could not be shown. Mr McQuillan advised that the NIHE did not sell if the occupants was over 60 years of age or if the property was ground floor accommodation of one or two bedrooms.

Councillor Cuddy spoke of issues relating to un-adopted roads at housing estates in particular Curran Terrace and stated that there must be a policy to address this as local councillors were continually lobbied for resolution. In response Mr McQuillan advised that there was still un-adopted roads and acknowledged that they were the responsibility of the NIHE.

Councillor Mallaghan left the meeting at 9.07pm

Councillor T Quinn thanked Mr McQuillan and the staff at Cookstown NIHE office. The Councillor spoke of the issue of hate crime incidents and emphasised the importance of the Good Relations Strategy quoting Ted Jackson in his statement that "racism and sectarianism hinders growth and limits spirit..."

In response to Councillor T Quinn's query in relation to hate crime in the Mid Ulster region Mr McQuillan advised that it was an emotive issue and that it had been moved into the community cohesions strategy. He advised in the last year there were no reported incidents of hate crime although he had been aware of an issue

some time ago when a migrant family had received threats. Mr McQuillan advised it was not widespread but that the NIHE endeavoured to work on united communities highlighting the housing scheme in Cookstown as a sign of progress.

Councillor Cuthbertson referred to an incident involving private contractors undertaking NIHE maintenance work and sought clarity as to whether or not such works were signed off by NIHE officers. Mr McQuillan advised that he was aware of a recent incident but in general planned maintenance feedback was positive. He further clarified that lessons had been learnt, contractor checks were in place and it was planned to have improved checks and balances in place moving forward.

Councillor J Shiels, Robinson and Councillor McGinley left the meeting at 9.15pm

In response to Councillor Glasgow's query regarding spending cuts Mr McQuillan advised that much NIHE finance came from stock rental. He advised that there was major spend planned over the next 30 years but there may be some difficulty if the block grant was reduced. It was also noted that it was hoped social housing reform programme would address some issues.

The Chair, Councillor Wilson concurred with previous comments regarding staff in the NIHE office in Cookstown and thanked the representatives from NIHE for their contribution to the meeting.

SC27/16 Clanmil Housing Association

The Chair Councillor Wilson welcomed Ms Colette Moore, Group Director of Housing. Ms Moore delivered presentation outlining the work of Clanmil Housing Association in the Mid Ulster District.

Councillor Gillespie left the meeting at 9.17pm and Councillor J Shiels returned.

Ms Moore sought Council support for the 'Supporting People' Campaign.

The Chair, Councillor Wilson thanked Ms Moore for the presentation stating that he hadn't realised the extent of the work they were carrying out in the area especially in areas of acute need.

Councillor Cuthbertson made reference to the need for properties in Dungannon and stated that due to the zoning of area one and two there were sites available but on the wrong side of the line on a map but stated he could advise of a number of sites where if housing should be made available there would be demand. In response Ms Moore stated Clanmil was bound by the needs identified by the Northern Ireland Housing Executive but emphasised the desire of Clanmil to develop housing in the Dungannon area.

The Chair, Councillor Wilson thanked Ms Moore for her contribution to the meeting.

SC28/16 Duration of Meeting

The meeting was called for 8.30pm and ended at 9.35pm

Chair _____

Date: _____

C

Minutes of Meeting of Planning Committee of Mid Ulster District Council held on Tuesday 4 October 2016 in Council Offices, Ballyronan Road, Magherafelt

Members Present

Councillor Clarke, Chair

Councillors Bateson, Cuthbertson, Gildernew, Glasgow, Kearney, Mallaghan, McAleer, McEldowney, McKinney, Mullen (7.04 pm), Reid, Robinson, J Shiels

Officers in

Dr Boomer, Planning Manager
Mr Bowman, Head of Development Management
Mr Marrion, Senior Planning Officer
Ms McCullagh, Senior Planning Officer
Ms McNally, Solicitor
Miss Thompson, Committee Services Officer

Others in Attendance

Applicant Speakers

LA09/2015/0512/F	Mr Francey
LA09/2016/0598/O	Ms Gourley
LA09/2016/0828/F	Mr Hurrell

The meeting commenced at 7.03 pm

P160/16 Apologies

Councillors Bell and McPeake.

P161/16 Declarations of Interest

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

Councillor Kearney declared an interest in application LA09/2016/0164/F.

P162/16 Chair's Business

Councillor Mullen entered the meeting at 7.04 pm.

The Chair advised that the Planning Manager could provide performance statistics for the period 1 April to 30 June 2016.

The Planning Manager advised that Mid Ulster Council still continued to receive the highest number of planning applications with 365 being received between April and June, approval rates were still high at 95.7%.

The Planning Manager stated that targets were being met in relation to local applications, however there was room for improvement in relation to meeting targets for major applications, it was advised that poor performance in this regard could be

attributed to the number of inherited cases still to be worked through and a number of officers on long term sick leave. The Planning Manger advised that officers were looking at proposals for speeding up the process in relation to major applications.

In relation to enforcement cases the Planning Manager advised that Mid Ulster Council received the lowest number of enforcement complaints compared with other authorities. It was stated that performance in relation to enforcement was within targets however it was advised that the key priority was to resolve these type of cases properly.

The Planning Manager advised that the number of legacy applications had been reduced to 68.

Councillor Reid wanted to wish a speedy recovery to the employees on long term sick leave and asked if additional help could be brought in to ease the pressure on officers.

The Planning Manager advised that there was opportunity for temporary officers to be put in place at this time.

Councillor Reid stated there was a commitment to the public to work through applications as quickly as possible.

P163/16 Confirm Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 6 September 2016

Councillor McAleer asked that her comment in relation to application LA09/2015/1287/F be amended to read –

Councillor McAleer said that living conditions wasn't viably feasible due to dampness and that she was aware of other houses being left in a similar condition eventually creating long term problems, but that there was a need for enhancing and saving the character of the village

Proposed by Councillor McAleer
Seconded by Councillor Mallaghan and

Resolved That the minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on Tuesday 6 September 2016, (P149/16 – P155/16 & P159/16), were considered and, subject to the foregoing, signed as accurate and correct.

Councillor Glasgow asked if there was an update in relation to application LA09/2016/0981/F.

The Planning Manager advised that the Chief Executive had met with Roads Service and that amended plans had recently been received. Further consultation would now take place with TransportNI in relation to the application.

Matters for Decision

P164/16 Planning Applications for Determination

The Chair drew Members attention to the undernoted planning applications for determination.

I/2012/0293/F Reclamation of former gravel pit/quarry at Brigh Quarry, Brigh Road, Stewartstown for MP Coleman Ltd

Application listed for approval subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

Proposed by Councillor Mallaghan
Seconded by Councillor Reid and

Resolved That planning application I/2012/0293/F be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

M/2014/0572/O Renewal of residential development (M/2007/0787/O), maximum of 210 units, with access onto Greers Road and Quarry Lane, Dungannon, 15m NE of 67a Donaghmore Road, Dungannon for Michael Herron Architects

Application listed for approval subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

Proposed by Councillor Gildernew
Seconded by Councillor Reid and

Resolved That planning application M/2014/0572/O be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

LA09/2015/0391/F Housing development (12 semi and 2 detached houses), estates roads and foul water treatment plant at 92 Roughan Road, Newmills for Firtree Developments (NI) Ltd

Application listed for approval subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

Proposed by Councillor Reid
Seconded by Councillor Robinson and

Resolved That planning application LA09/2015/0391/F be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

LA09/2015/0512/F Extension to existing service centre for agricultural vehicles and machinery; and new access at 149c Drumbolg Road, Upperlands, Maghera for Andrew Armstrong

The Head of Development Management presented a report on planning application LA09/2015/0512/F advising that it is recommended for refusal.

The Chair advised the committee that a request to speak on the application had been received and invited Mr Francey to address the committee.

Mr Francey advised that the application was for an extension to the existing shed which was approved in 2012 and stated that that approval established the principle for development. Mr Francey felt that there was an issue with existing policy in that it does not allow for extension of farm diversification applications.

Mr Francey advised that the business had grown and diversified since its inception in 2005. The business had a high turnover and the current proposal would provide extra employment in the area, Mr Francey stated that the applicants business was only one of two recognised centres in Northern Ireland for the servicing of specialist machinery.

Mr Francey confirmed that the applicant had looked in to alternative locations for his business but to no avail and requested that the application be deferred to address issues of concern with planning officers.

The Planning Manager asked Mr Francey if it was his view that the application was not farm diversification but rather industrial development.

Mr Francey advised he had not been the initial agent for this application and was only brought in after the application had been made.

In response to the Planning Manager's question Mr Francey advised that the applicant would be prepared to review the design of the proposal. The Planning Manager also asked Mr Francey if the applicant would be prepared to cease the sale of car parts to which Mr Francey replied he would need to discuss this matter with his client.

The Planning Manager advised that if revised drawings were submitted the application may then satisfy Policy PED3 requirements.

Councillor J Shiels stated he was not aware that the business was only one of two recognised centres in Northern Ireland. The Councillor advised that the proposal was located in a rural area and would be sited mainly behind the existing shed or house, he did not feel there was any visual difference in this application and other farms with sheds. Councillor J Shiels proposed that the application be deferred for submission of revised drawings.

The Planning Manager asked if the applicant would be prepared to accept that all machinery is held within the proposed shed as part of approval conditions.

Mr Francey confirmed that the proposal will mean everything can be contained within the shed.

The Planning Manager referred to the debate as to whether the proposal was for a separate shed or extension of existing shed.

Mr Francey advised that the design of the proposal will confirm that the application is for an extension of the existing shed.

Councillor McKinney did not feel the proposal would be suited to an urban location and should be sited in a rural area. Councillor McKinney seconded Councillor Shiel's proposal.

Resolved That planning application LA09/2015/0512/F be deferred for submission of revised drawings.

LA09/2015/0549/F Shed extension to supercede previously approved H/2012/0168/F at 23 Ballymacombs Road, Portglenone for Peter Donnelly

The Head of Development Management presented a report on planning application LA09/2015/0549/F advising that it is recommended for refusal.

Councillor Kearney advised that his land marches the application site, he stated that the applicant was a friend of his but that he had not been approached by the applicant for representation. Councillor Kearney advised that the application site was an extremely busy industrial park and expressed his concern that there was no representation being made tonight, the Councillor asked what would happen next.

Councillor Bateson asked if there was any explanation as to why the area at the back of the site could not be utilised.

Councillor Gildernew asked if there was a reason as to why there was no representation regarding this application at the meeting.

Councillor Cuthbertson stated that perhaps the applicant was no longer interested in progressing the application.

The Planning Manager referred to previous applications and appeals associated to this site and advised that whilst it was accepted that a further two units could be accommodated within the industrial park they should not be at the scale proposed. The Planning Manager advised that the main issue regarding this application is visual intrusion and stated that Members may benefit from a site meeting.

Proposed by Councillor Gildernew
Seconded by Councillor Glasgow and

Resolved That planning application LA09/2015/0549/F be deferred for site meeting.

LA09/2016/0102/O Site for infill dwelling and domestic garage at 60m NE of 36 Drummuck Road, Maghera for Ciaran O'Hagan

As per addendum circulated at meeting it was advised that this application had been withdrawn by the agent.

LA09/2016/0540/F Replacement dwelling plus retention, renovation and extension of existing listed building to provide single unit of accommodation at 89 Tirkane Road, Maghera for Declan McKenna

The Head of Development Management presented a report on planning application LA09/2016/0540/F advising that it is recommended for refusal.

Councillor McEldowney advised that she had spoken with the agent for the application and that a deferral had been requested.

Councillor McEldowney declared an interest in this application.

Councillor Mallaghan advised he had seen an example of the proposal carried out on a house between Donaghmore and Pomeroy (Old Kerrib School) and suggested that Members visit this site.

Councillor J Shiels felt that if the proposal was completed to a good standard it would be suitable in the area. Councillor Shiels proposed that the application be deferred for an office meeting.

Councillor Mallaghan seconded Councillor Shiel's proposal.

Resolved That planning application LA09/2016/0540/F be deferred for an office meeting.

LA09/2016/0544/O Dwelling and garage 29m S of 6 Annaghmore Road, Cookstown for Sean Quinn

Ms McCullagh (SPO) presented a report on planning application LA09/2016/0544/O advising that it is recommended for refusal.

Proposed by Councillor Mallaghan
Seconded by Councillor Bateson and

Resolved That planning application LA09/2016/0544/O be refused on grounds stated in the officer's report.

LA09/2016/0556/F Dwelling and garage (renewal of H/2011/0183/F) at rear of 3 Loughinsholin Park, Castledawson for Mark and Catherine Cooke

Application listed for approval subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

Proposed by Councillor McKinney
Seconded by Councillor Robinson and

Resolved That planning application LA09/2016/0556/F be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

LA09/2016/0581/F Variation of condition 11 of planning approval I/1977/0071/F – retention of scrap associated with and to be reused in the maintenance of existing mineral development plant and quarry at site 230m W of 29 Crancussy Road, Cookstown for Core Aggregates

Ms McCullagh (SPO) presented a report on planning application LA09/2016/0581/F advising that it is recommended for approval. Ms McCullagh also drew attention to the addendum circulated which provided the following information which was omitted from the officer's report under policy assessment –

The Department of the Environment has published its Strategic Planning Policy Statement for Northern Ireland (SPPS): Planning for Sustainable Development. This policy is a consolidation of some twenty separate policies however the policy provisions of 'A Planning Strategy for Rural NI – Policies MIN1-MIN8' are retained until such time as the Mid Ulster Council adopt a Plan Strategy for the Council area. There is no conflict between the policy on Minerals in SPPS and the retained policies.

Proposed by Councillor Glasgow
Seconded by Councillor Gildernew and

Resolved That planning application LA09/2016/0581/F be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

LA09/2016/0593/LBC Replacement dwelling plus retention, renovation and extension of existing listed building to provide single unit of accommodation at 89 Tirkane Road, Maghera for Declan McKenna

Application listed for refusal on grounds stated in the officer's report.

Proposed by Councillor J Shiels
Seconded by Councillor Mallaghan and

Resolved That planning application LA09/2016/0593/LBC be deferred for an office meeting.

LA09/2016/0598/O Off-site replacement dwelling SW of and adjacent to 73 Derryvale Road, Coalisland for Dominic Halligan

Ms McCullagh (SPO) presented a report on planning application LA09/2016/0598/O advising that it is recommended for refusal.

The Chair advised the committee that a request to speak on the application had been received and invited Ms Gourley to address the committee.

Ms Gourley advised that the building to be replaced had all four walls intact, the building also had a concrete floor and a red brick chimney breast and hearth. Ms Gourley advised that a fireplace would not have been commonplace in a byre in

years gone by for the purpose of keeping animals warm, such a fireplace would only have been constructed if the building was to be used as living quarters. Ms Gourley also went on to advise of written statements from two elderly locals who confirmed that the property was lived in by a farm worker in previous years.

Ms Gourley advised that Council had not disputed the statements of locals and had not presented any evidence to establish any previous non residential use of the building. Ms Gourley felt that the local statements and pictures submitted prove there was little doubt that the building had a previous residential use.

Ms Gourley referred to statement by Minister Attwood which used a building that was not as intact as the one in this proposal as an example of good practice. Ms Gourley advised that the proposal was in the spirit of PPS21 and that like will be replaced with like. Ms Gourley concluded that the proposal will provide a home for a rural dweller.

Councillor Cuthbertson felt that the photographs demonstrated that there was no doubt that the building would have been a used living accommodation at some stage. The Councillor also stated that by looking after the building over the years the applicant may now be being treated unfairly. Councillor Cuthbertson proposed the approval of the application.

Councillor Gildernew concurred with the comments of Councillor Cuthbertson and stated that the photographs show the fireplace had been well used in the past.

In reference to house numbering Councillor Gildernew advised that numbering only took place in past years and that the building demonstrates the way living accommodation would have looked in the past. Councillor Gildernew seconded Councillor Cuthbertson's proposal to approve the proposal.

Councillor Mallaghan felt that the pictures and submissions made clearly indicated that someone lived in the building in the past and stated that the committee had approved other applications in the past that were not as clear cut.

Councillor McAleer also referred to previous applications that were not as clear, the Councillor felt that consideration also needed to be given to the written submissions of locals.

The Planning Manager urged some caution and felt that a more sensible approach would be to suggest that the current building be converted to a dwelling.

Ms Gourley advised that her client would have some concerns regarding conversion on a working farmyard and that it would give no opportunity for expansion in the future.

Councillor Gildernew felt that conversion would only mean added expense for the applicant when the application would be approved anyway.

The Council Solicitor advised that it was important to concentrate on the policy requirement and it would be prudent to note the "essential characteristics" of the

dwelling being relied upon and also the information presented if a decision was taken that the application does satisfy Policy CTY3.

The Planning Manager advised that in his view it was reasonable for Council to take into account the following matters:-

- The building may have been used as a dwelling and was sufficiently substantial in size with all four walls intact
- If the proposal was for a conversion to a dwelling then in provincial this would be acceptable
- The policy can facilitate the replacement of a non-residential building in an offsite location if there are environmental benefits
- Providing a better environment than within the farm yard could provide environmental justification for an off-site replacement

In light of the above Members could conclude that although policy compliance could be challenged it was reasonable to consider that the proposal was in the spirit of the policy and to give the applicant the benefit of doubt.

On the basis of Councillor Cuthbertson's proposal to approve the application which was seconded by Councillor Gildernew it was agreed that planning application LA09/2016/0598/O be approved.

In relation to attaching conditions to the approval it was -

Proposed by Councillor Mallaghan
Seconded by Councillor J Shiels and

Resolved That planning application LA09/2016/0598/O be approved subject to conditions, which the Committee resolved to delegate to the Planning Manager.

LA09/2016/0771/F Extension and alterations to existing commercial premises to create rear single storey entrance lobby, additional shop floor and storage area at 17-19 Main Street, Bellaghy for Hugh Graham

Application listed for approval subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

Proposed by Councillor Kearney
Seconded by Councillor McKinney and

Resolved That planning application LA09/2016/0771/F be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

LA09/2016/0787/A Hotel signage adjacent to the junction of Tullylagan Road and the A29 for Mr A Martin

Ms McCullagh (SPO) presented a report on planning application LA09/2016/0787/A advising that it is recommended for refusal.

Councillor Mallaghan proposed the refusal of the application stating that the applicant would be entitled to brown signage and that if approved it would leave Council in a difficult situation going forward.

Councillor Glasgow did not feel the signage would be a distraction to road users as it would not be illuminated, the Councillor felt that the proposal would blend in to local surroundings.

Councillor Gildernew advised that if the signage is placed on lands belonging to TransportNI then they are free to remove the signage if erected. Councillor Gildernew seconded the proposal to refuse the application.

Ms McCullagh clarified that there would be static lighting of the signage.

Councillor Reid suggested that the application be deferred for one month to look at alternative locations for the signage. The Councillor stated that most hotels had signage and he did not feel there would be any distraction caused by the application.

The Planning Manager stated he was not comfortable with overriding concerns raised by TransportNI in relation to road safety, he advised that should the applicant appeal a decision to refuse it would be up to TransportNI to justify their concerns. The Planning Manager also felt that the committee needed to be careful going forward with regard to visual amenity and that consideration should also be given to land ownership issues.

Councillor Reid felt that TransportNI did not always get things right and that the proposal could still be accommodated.

Councillor Robinson stated he believed that there already was brown signage for this hotel.

The Council Solicitor advised that land ownership issues were not a material consideration in this application. In relation to road safety issues, Members can take a view on that, however, in the absence of any evidence or information to the contrary of what TransportNI were saying, they need to base such alternative views on evidence.

Councillor Mallaghan felt that brown signage creates uniformity and that other hotels could make a similar argument for signage as like this proposal.

Members voted on Councillor Mallaghan's proposal to refuse the application as follows –

For – 7
Against - 0

Resolved That planning application LA09/2016/0787/A be refused on grounds stated in the officer's report.

LA09/2016/0816/O Site for dwelling and domestic garage at 30m SSE of 68 Moneyhaw Road, Drumullan, Moneymore for Daniel McCloy

Ms McCullagh (SPO) presented a report on planning application LA09/2016/0816/O advising that it is recommended for refusal.

Proposed by Councillor Mallaghan
Seconded by Councillor Kearney and

Resolved That planning application LA09/2016/0816/O be refused on grounds stated in the officer's report.

LA09/2016/0828/F Single storey dwelling and associated works at lands 10m NE of 111 Back Lower Road, Killycolpy, Dungannon for Emmet Hurrell and Terri Ryan

The Chair proposed that this item be considered 'in committee' as there were personal circumstances related to the application.

Agreed

LA09/2016/0843/F 1 free range poultry sheds with 2 feed bins and standby generator building at lands approx. 85m NE of 117 Aghnagar Road, Galbally for Mr Dominic Rafferty

Application listed for approval subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

Proposed by Councillor Gildernew
Seconded by Councillor Mallaghan and

Resolved That planning application LA09/2016/0843/F be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

LA09/2016/0995/F Enlargement of site area, relocation of house with minor amended design and detached double garage at 55m S of 8 Reenadeery Road, Aughamullan for Paul and Claire Envy

Application listed for approval subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

Proposed by Councillor Reid
Seconded by Councillor Gildernew and

Resolved That planning application LA09/2016/0995/F be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

I/2013/0370/O Residential development incorporating the retention of existing garage at lands to rear of 9 Adair Gardens, Cookstown for R&F Developments

Application listed for approval subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

Proposed by Councillor Mallaghan
Seconded by Councillor Robinson and

Resolved That planning application I/2013/0370/O be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

LA09/2015/1117/O Replacement dwelling approx. 57 m NW of 9 Dunamore Road, Cookstown for Dean Wilson

Application listed for approval subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

Proposed by Councillor Mallaghan
Seconded by Councillor Reid and

Resolved That planning application LA09/2015/1117/O be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

LA09/2015/1287/F Partial demolition to include replacement front walls with renovation and rear extension to create 2 terraced dwellings at 50 and 52 Moore Street, Aughnacloy for Martina O'Hanlon

Application listed for approval subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

In response to Councillor Reid's question it was advised that all issues regarding the application had been addressed.

Proposed by Councillor Gildernew
Seconded by Councillor Robinson and

Resolved That planning application LA09/2015/1287/F be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

LA09/2016/0164/F Replacement dwelling and garage at 17 Tobermore Road, Magherafelt for Mr O'Neill

Application listed for approval subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

Proposed by Councillor McKinney
Seconded by Councillor McAleer and

Resolved That planning application LA09/2016/0164/F be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

Matters for Information

P165/16 Report of Delegated Decisions Issued in August 2016

Members noted the content of the report of delegated decisions issued in August 2016.

CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS

Proposed by Councillor Reid
Seconded by Councillor Mallaghan and

Resolved That final item under P164/16 and items P166/16 to P168/16 be taken as confidential business.

P169/16 Duration of Meeting

The meeting was called for 7.00pm and ended at 9.15 pm.

Chair _____

Date _____

D

Minutes of Meeting of Policy and Resources Committee of Mid Ulster District Council held on Thursday 6 October 2016 in the Council Offices, Burn Road, Cookstown

Members Present	Councillor Gildernew, Chair Councillors Ashton, Bateson, Cuddy, Mallaghan, S McGuigan, McKinney, McLean, McPeake, Molloy, Quinn and Totten
Officers in Attendance	Mr A Tohill, Chief Executive Mrs Canavan, Director of Organisational Development Mr Cassells, Director of Environment & Property Mrs McNally, Council Solicitor Mr Moffett, Head of Democratic Services Mr JJ Tohill, Director of Finance Mrs Grogan, Committee Services Officer

The meeting commenced at 7.00 pm.

PR173/16 Apologies

Councillor Buchanan.

PR174/16 Declaration of Interest

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

PR175/16 Chair's Business

None.

PR176/16 Receive and confirm minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee meeting held on Thursday 8 September 2016

Proposed by Councillor Molloy
Seconded by Councillor T Quinn and

Resolved That the minutes of the meeting of the Policy & Resources Committee held on Thursday 7 July 2016 (PR153/16 – PR163/16 and PR172/16) were considered and signed as accurate and correct.

Matters for Decision

PR177/16 Mid Ulster Council Equality Scheme

The Head of Democratic Services drew attention to the previously circulated report to seek approval for Mid Ulster Council's Equality Scheme to be formally resubmitted with the Equality Commission to be now considered by their Board of Commissioners.

Councillor McPeake referred to measuring the impacts of Good Relations and stated the scheme did not give a definition for Good Relations. He stressed the importance of a definition for the Good Relations Working Group to measure the impact.

Councillor McPeake read a definition which he suggested be considered for inclusion into the Equality Scheme:

“Good Relations can be said to exist where there is:

- § a high level of dignity, respect and mutual understanding*
- § an absence of prejudice, hatred, hostility or harassment*
- § a fair level of participation in society*

Good Relations means, in particular, having regard to the desirability of:

- § tackling prejudice and*
- § promoting understanding”*

The Head of Democratic Services said that the scope from the Good Relations Working Group was incorporated within the Scheme as Appendix 6 for consideration by the Equality Commission.

Councillor McPeake stated he would be happy to propose the report on basis that the definition be considered for use by the Council. He added that the definition he read out was from Equality Commission documentation so there should not be any issue with using same.

Councillor Cuddy enquired if Section 75 was always incorporated within council strategies and whether there were any challenges from any groups over the years.

The Head of Democratic Services advised that to date no Section 75 Equality Scheme complaints had been received.

The Chief Executive said that it was important to proceed with the Scheme as presented to avoid the process being held up.

Councillor McPeake advised Members that there was a meeting of the Good Relations Working Group next Tuesday and council should wait until after that before submitting.

Councillor McLean raised concern regarding the timing of the Good Relations Working Group and felt that 5pm was not suitable to all members.

The Head of Democratic Services advised that he would investigate if this could be changed and would liaise with the Chair to see if it would be possible to arrange the meeting for a later time in the evening.

Proposed by Councillor Bateson
Seconded by Councillor T Quinn and

Resolved: That it be recommended to the Council that approval be given for the Equality Scheme to be submitted with the Equality Commission. That the matter of a definition for Good Relations be considered at next available meeting of the Good Relations Working Group in October 2016.

PR178/16 Elected Member Development Charter Steering Group

The Head of Democratic Services drew attention the previously circulated report to seek nominations from political parties to serve on the Elected Member Development Charter Steering Group.

He advised that nominations were not required tonight but would like members to agree a membership of 5 to serve on the Steering Group. The Chair of Council would also be asked to take part.

Proposed by Councillor Cuddy
Seconded by Councillor T Quinn and

Resolved: That it be recommended to the Council that approval be given to the political party nominations being made to the Elected Member Development Charter Steering Group. Nominations to be forwarded to the Head of Democratic Services.

PR179/16 Brand Implementation: Vehicle Livery

The Chief Executive drew attention to the previously circulated report to ask members to consider proposed designs for the application of Council branding to vehicles.

Councillor Mallaghan said that he had no objections to agreeing to the 5 different samples of branding for vans highlighted tonight but would like further branding initiatives for Lorries and other vehicles brought to P&R Committee for approval before proceeding.

Councillor Cuddy asked that it be recorded that consideration be given to including Ulster Scots on all vehicle branding.

Proposed by Councillor Mallaghan
Seconded by Councillor Molloy and

Resolved: That it be recommended to the Council that approval be given to the design options for vehicle branding shown tonight (vans) to allow the application process to begin. Further branding initiatives for Lorries and other vehicles to come back to P&R Committee for consideration before proceeding.

Matters for Information

PR180/16 Amendment to Health and Safety Policy

The Head of Democratic Services drew attention to the previously circulated report to inform the Committee of minor revisions to the Council's current Health and Safety Policy.

Resolved That it be recommended to Council that approval be given to revised wording contained within the Health and Safety Policy.

PR181/16 Seamus Heaney Collection Loan Agreements

The Council Solicitor drew attention to the previously circulated report to inform Members that the Council has entered and will in the future enter into Loan Agreements with various organisations and individuals in respect of items to be displayed and exhibited at Seamus Heaney HomePlace.

Councillor Mallaghan proposed taking this item "In Committee" due to sensitive materials.

Proposed by Councillor Mallaghan

Resolved: That it be recommended to Council to take this item "In Committee" for discussion.

PR182/16 Eglish Business Park – Consent for Solar Panels

The Council Solicitor drew attention to the previously circulated report to inform Members that the Council has consented in principle to the proposed installation of solar PV panels on the rooftops of the business units at the Business Park, Eglish.

Councillor Cuddy declared an interest in Eglish Business Park – Consent for Solar Panels.

Councillor McGuigan enquired how it would stand if the Committee didn't agree to the request tonight. He raised concern about the impact of the Committee agreeing to something to which they were not happy doing. He asked if the Committee agreed to something in principle and it doesn't go well, where the Council would stand on this.

The Chief Executive advised that in situations like this a judgement call needed to be made. He said that after discussions with the Solicitor it was decided that the better option was to proceed with the request.

Proposed Councillor Mallaghan
Seconded by Councillor McLean

Resolved: That it be recommended to the Council to agree the contents of the report on Eglish Business Park and provide Council consent – Consent for Solar Panels.

Confidential Business

Proposed by Councillor Mallaghan
Seconded by Councillor T Quinn and

Resolved That items PR183/16 to PR192/16 be taken as confidential business.

PR193/16 Duration of Meeting

The meeting was called for 7 pm and ended at 9 pm.

CHAIR _____

DATE _____

E

**Minutes of Meeting of Environment Committee of Mid Ulster District Council
held on Tuesday 11 October 2016 in Council Offices, Burn Road, Cookstown**

Members Present	Councillor Cuthbertson (Chair) Councillors Buchanan, Burton, Gillespie, Glasgow, Kearney, McFlynn, McGinley, B McGuigan, S McGuigan, McNamee, Mulligan, J O'Neill, Reid, Totten
Officers in Attendance	Mr Cassells, Director of Environment and Property Mr Kelso, Director of Public Health and Infrastructure Mr McAdoo, Head of Environmental Services Mrs McDonnell, Principal Environmental Health Officer (Food) Ms O'Kane, Senior Environmental Health Officer Mrs Patterson, Principal Environmental Health Officer (Health and Safety and Licensing) Mr Lowry, Head of Technical Services Mr Scullion, Head of Property Services Mr Wilkinson, Head of Building Control Miss Thompson, Committee Services Officer
Others in Attendance	Councillor Bateson

The meeting commenced at 7.00 pm

E238/16 Apologies

Councillor M Quinn.

E239/16 Declarations of Interest

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

E240/16 Chair's Business

The Chair, Councillor Cuthbertson, referred to upcoming Britain in Bloom Awards taking place in Birmingham and advised that, in addition to Council representation, members of Castlecaulfield Horticultural Society would also be attending the awards. The Chair advised that there were three official invites to the awards but that five to six members of the Horticultural Society planned to travel to Birmingham for the event and felt that as members of the Horticultural Society would be representing Council it would be in order for Council to make a donation towards their attendance at the awards. The Chair advised that the Society did not qualify for any funding from other sources.

Councillor Burton proposed that Council make a donation of at least £500 towards costs for members of Castlecaulfield Horticultural Society to attend the Britain in Bloom Awards. Councillor Burton stated that the Society had worked well together

all year despite the setbacks in relation to vandalism and felt it sad that only three tickets had been received to attend the awards.

In response to Councillor McNamee's questions the Director of Environment and Property advised that any funding provided would come from the grounds maintenance budget. In relation to precedent, it was advised that there was a previous example of a group receiving funding who did not qualify through other channels.

The Chair felt further consideration should be given to this type of issue with the view of putting something in place for future.

Councillor McFlynn seconded Councillor Burton's proposal stating that it was a terrific achievement for Castlecaulfield Horticultural Society.

Councillor McNamee advised he was not against Council providing funding to the Society but wanted to make sure all bases were covered.

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to provide funding of £500 towards costs of Members of Castlecaulfield Horticultural Society attending the Britain in Bloom awards.

Councillor McGinley asked for update in relation to travellers needs within the Mid Ulster area following recent presentation from Housing Executive.

The Director of Public Health and Infrastructure advised that an undertaking was given by Housing Executive to review traveller needs in Mid Ulster. The Director stated that he would request an update from Housing Executive in relation to this matter.

The Chair, Councillor Cuthbertson advised of travellers currently located on Moy Road albeit on TransportNI ground.

Councillor S McGuigan advised that travellers needs was an ongoing issue and needed to be addressed.

The Director of Public Health and Infrastructure advised he would request update from Housing Executive and report back to future committee.

E241/16 Mid Ulster Community Resuscitation Programme

Ms O'Kane made powerpoint presentation which updated Members on the Mid Ulster Community Resuscitation programme and the action plan which focuses on three key areas of work including –

- Automated External Defibrillators
- Training
- Raising Awareness

Ms O'Kane also advised Members on the 'Restart a Heart Day' initiative taking place on 18 October in which participants will receive training on CPR. Training sessions will be run across the district and invitations were sent to community and voluntary

organisations, post primary schools and workplaces across the district. Members were also invited to attend.

Ms O’Kane advised that, going forward, a ‘Call Push Rescue’ campaign was currently under development and would be rolled out in 2017. The Call Push Rescue Campaign will aim to –

- Raise awareness of the Call Push Rescue message
- Promote Call Push Rescue Kits to communities and post primary schools
- Train local people to deal effectively in an emergency situation while awaiting Ambulance Services in the event of an out of hospital cardiac arrest

The Chair, Councillor Cuthbertson stated that this was a very worthwhile programme and asked if Council staff could also avail of training.

Ms O’Kane advised that defibrillator training sessions had recently been held and that around thirty members of staff had been trained. This number is in addition to the staff also trained in first aid.

Councillor McGinley stated that first responders were critical in rural areas as they had local knowledge, the Councillor asked how successful the initiative was in areas where first responders are used and what the response times were in areas that are not included in the initiative.

Ms O’Kane advised that first responder initiatives were based on ambulance response times and that there was a view that this initiative needed to be extended within the Mid Ulster area. Ms O’Kane advised that she could feed back to NI Ambulance Service but would also encourage Members to lobby.

Councillor Reid referred to the need for training to those who raise monies to purchase defibrillators for use in the community. The Councillor also asked if there were records of where defibrillators were located throughout the district.

Ms O’Kane advised that a mapping exercise of defibrillator locations was being carried out but expressed the importance of all defibrillators to be registered. Ms O’Kane advised that the need for training had been brought to the attention of NI Ambulance Service.

Councillor Burton also referred to community groups who have availed of funding to purchase defibrillators but don’t realise they have to then register the defibrillator and the importance of this. The Councillor also stated that training on defibrillator use can be expensive for community groups.

Councillor B McGuigan asked if, in addition to where a defibrillator was located, there was additional information on who is responsible for a defibrillator.

Ms O’Kane advised that if a defibrillator is registered then there would be a person or persons listed who are trained in its use. Ms O’Kane also advised that work was taking place to promote registration of defibrillators and community resuscitation.

Councillor Bateson left the meeting at 7.20 pm.

Councillor Burton advised that COSTA and CSWAN may be avenues for promoting community resuscitation and registration of defibrillators.

Councillor Gillespie advised he was aware of the location of five defibrillators and would provide this information to Ms O’Kane.

The Chair thanked Ms O’Kane for her presentation following which she withdrew from the meeting at 7.23 pm.

E242/16 Receive and confirm minutes of the Environment Committee meeting held on Tuesday 13 September 2016

Proposed by Councillor McNamee
Seconded by Councillor B McGuigan and

Resolved That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Environment Committee held on Tuesday 13 September 2016 (E204/16 – E226/16 and E237/16) were considered and, signed as accurate and correct.

In relation to item E122/16 Councillor McNamee stated there was a need for a specific meeting in relation to Killymoon bonfire as well as a bonfire working group.

The Director of Public Health and Infrastructure advised that a meeting in relation to Killymoon bonfire could be set up.

Matters for Decision

E243/16 General Regulatory and Enforcement Policy

The Director of Public Health and Infrastructure presented previously circulated report which updated Members on the revised General Regulatory and Enforcement Policy for Environmental Health, Building Control and related regulatory services.

Proposed by Councillor S McGuigan
Seconded by Councillor Burton and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council that the revised General Regulatory and Enforcement Policy for Environmental Health, Building Control and related regulatory services be adopted for implementation.

Councillor Reid referred to previous schemes in relation to control of dispersal of tyres which he did not feel had been successful. The Councillor stated that there was a need for greater control regarding the dispersal of tyres as they created an environmental problem and asked what power Council had to pursue this issue with NIEA.

The Director of Public Health and Infrastructure advised that the policy before Members was in relation to Environmental Health and Building Control controls. He advised that the legislation referred to by Councillor Reid came under control of NIEA.

E244/16 Winter Maintenance – Footpath Snow/Ice Clearance

The Head of Property Services presented previously circulated report which sought approval of the agreement with DfI/TransportNI in relation to the treatment of footpaths in the main town centres within Mid Ulster District Council following heavy snowfall or prolonged freezing.

Councillor Glasgow stated that at a previous meeting he had requested that Coagh Street, Cookstown be included within arrangements for footpath treatment. Councillor Glasgow referred to the hotel located on Coagh Street which he advised was bringing trade to the town and was fully booked for events/weddings, the Councillor felt there had been little attempt made to include Coagh Street within agreement and again requested that treatment of footpaths be extended to include Coagh Street, Cookstown.

The Chair, Councillor Cuthbertson advised that Northland Row, Dungannon, which also had heavy footfall, was not included within arrangements.

The Director of Environment and Property advised that getting agreement was never going to be easy however Council needed to look at criteria which could be applied equally. The Director advised maps circulated as part of the report originated from the Local Development Plan showing the retail cores of each town, the Director stated that he would take direction from Members on the issue however he again advised that Council needed to have sound reasons for making a decision and that individual premises/streets could not be handpicked. Members were reminded that the agreement was only used on one occasion last year.

The Chair, Councillor Cuthbertson understood maps were liable to change as part of Local Development Plan process but he felt that if there were exceptional circumstances then a common sense approach could be taken and that treatment could be undertaken additional to what was included on maps.

The Director of Environment and Property confirmed that treatment of footpaths was driven by circumstances but referred back to the need to have criteria in place.

Councillor McNamee advised that, further to public realm works, some newly laid pavements had not yet been worn in and could be slippery. The Councillor spoke in particular of Loy Street, Cookstown and the need for particular attention in this area following ice/snow.

Councillor Reid felt it would be difficult to achieve a level playing field and used the example of Cookstown which is mainly flat compared to Dungannon on which almost every street was on a hill, on this basis the Councillor felt that Dungannon would require more gritting.

Councillor Glasgow stated he was still of the opinion that Coagh Street should be included within the schedule of footpath treatment, the Councillor felt that the schedule only considered retail premises and stated that the Mid Ulster area did not have many hotels and that hospitality premises should also be included.

Proposed by Councillor B McGuigan
Seconded by Councillor S McGuigan and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council that Mid Ulster District Council enters into the agreement with DfI/TransportNI in relation to the treatment of footways in the main town centres following heavy snowfalls or prolonged freezing.

E245/16 Re-launch of Brown Bin Scheme – Project/Funding Update

The Head of Environmental Services presented previously circulated report which updated Members on progress and funding in relation to the re-launch of the Council brown bin kerbside for the collection of garden and food waste.

Proposed by Councillor McNamee
Seconded by Councillor Kearney and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to endorse the acceptance and expenditure of the funding on the on the brown bin scheme as outlined in the report.

E246/16 Warp It Reuse Network

The Head of Environmental Services presented previously circulated report which provided information on the Warp It Reuse Network and sought approval for internal implementation of the scheme within Mid Ulster District Council.

Proposed by Councillor Reid
Seconded by Councillor McFlynn and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to approve the internal implementation of the Warp It Reuse Scheme in Mid Ulster District Council at a cost of £2,300 for the initial year.

E247/16 Consultation on the Licensing and Registration of Clubs (Amendment) Bill

The Head of Building Control presented previously circulated report which provided response to consultation on the Licensing and Registration of Clubs (Amendment) Bill.

The Chair, Councillor Cuthbertson advised he had no problem in relation to the restriction of advertisements in supermarkets as he had witnessed the effect drinking had on young people however he did question the need for additional permitted hours over the Easter period.

Councillor Burton referred to issues previously raised through PCSP in relation to young people drinking. The Councillor also questioned the need to extend additional hours from twenty to eighty five days in a year, she advised that the family life of those living nearby licensed premises were badly affected and that what was already permitted was problematic. Councillor Burton did not feel Mid Ulster Council should endorse any further extension to permitted hours and added that issues related to bus operators/drivers carrying persons to and from premises should also be included within the Council response.

Councillor McGinley advised that, through his employment, he had seen the impacts of alcohol misuse, he stated that minimum pricing of alcohol had little effect and that current opening hours were outdated. The Councillor accepted that advertising could be influential however education also had a part to play. Councillor McGinley proposed that the consultation response as circulated be approved.

Councillor McNamee felt that current legislation was in the dark ages and seconded Councillor McGinley's proposal.

The Chair, Councillor Cuthbertson stated there were laws already in place and questioned why these were not sufficient.

Councillor Reid advised that everyone was aware of the various problems related to drinking and that that some premises do breach laws and serve alcohol after hours. The Councillor advised that, in respect of giving bus operators greater controls, PSNI had stated that their hands were tied on this issue and that legislation had been at Stormont for consideration for seven years.

Councillor Kearney advised that the hospitality industry was in decline and that the proposals under consideration as part of the consultation would be beneficial if policed properly.

Councillor Glasgow stated that Cookstown, Dungannon and Magherafelt all had an active night time economy and that these premises were all paying rates. The Councillor understood there was a need for control but that it was up to PSNI to deal with anti social behaviour outside of premises.

The Director of Public Health and Infrastructure advised that a comment could be included within the consultation response in relation to giving bus operators better control if agreed.

Councillor Burton advised that she wanted to see a successful hospitality industry but that people who live nearby licensed premises were already being tortured by existing permitted licensing hours. Councillor Burton stated she was totally opposed to any extension of licensed trading hours and proposed that Council do not endorse any proposed extension to licensed trading hours.

Councillor Buchanan seconded Councillor Burton's proposal.

Councillor Mulligan also spoke in support of Councillor Burton's comments.

Councillor Reid stated that there was no attempt to damage the coach industry but there was a need to have some sort of policy in place for bus operators to protect them. The Councillor also spoke of the need to educate parents in respect of underage drinking.

Councillor McNamee felt that some of the issues being raised tonight were separate to what was under consideration.

Members voted on Councillor Burton's proposal not to endorse any proposed extension to licensed trading hours.

For – Six
Against – Nine

Members voted on Councillor McGinley's proposal to approve the draft response circulated regarding consultation on the Licensing and Registration of Clubs (Amendment) Bill.

For – Nine
Against – Six

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to approve the draft response circulated regarding consultation on the Licensing and Registration of Clubs (Amendment) Bill.

E248/16 Consultation on amendments of the Building Regulations

The Head of Building Control presented previously circulated report which provided response to consultation on amendment to Building Regulations.

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

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to respond to consultation on the amendments to Building Regulations as set out in report.

E249/16 Street Naming and Property Numbering

Members considered previously circulated report regarding the naming of new residential housing development at site of Killyman Road, Killyman, Dungannon.

Proposed by Councillor Reid
Seconded by Councillor Burton and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to name development off Killyman Road, Killyman as Old Corn Mill.

The Chair, Councillor Cuthbertson commented that a house had already been sold in this development under the name Old Corn Mill.

E250/16 Pavement Café Licensing: Proposed Fee Structure

The Principal Environmental Health Officer (Health and Safety and Licensing) presented previously circulated report which provided update on the introduction of the Pavement Café Licensing Scheme coming into effect on 1 October 2016 and information on the setting of the associated fee structure.

The Principal Environmental Health Officer highlighted that, further to the report circulated, SOLACE did not agree to write to Minister for Infrastructure regarding permitted development rights for Pavement Cafés. In addition it was advised that the proposed cost of renewal of a pavement café licence should be £275.

Councillor McNamee advised that this matter was recently discussed at a Cookstown Town Centre Forum and had received negative comments from traders who felt they already pay enough rates without an added expense, the Councillor also stated that pavement café licences would not apply in Cookstown on a Saturday due to market rights. Councillor McNamee proposed that Mid Ulster Council waive the licence fee associated to pavement cafés.

Councillor Reid seconded Councillor McNamee's proposal stating that the weather usually experienced would mean limited need for pavement cafés. The Councillor also felt that businesses pay enough rates.

Councillor McFlynn also felt that Council should waive the licence fee as traders could only make use of it for a maximum of two months per year and that there was already enough burden on businesses.

Councillor Glasgow advised he would also support the waiving of fees.

In response to some discussion it was advised that the licensing of pavement cafés is related to frontage linked to premises and that pop up traders would be considered under other legislation.

The Director of Public Health and Infrastructure advised that a further report would be brought back to committee which would look at the process of management of pavement café licensing.

Councillor Glasgow asked if planning permission would also be required for a Pavement Café Licence.

The Principal Environmental Health Officer advised that some councils were asking for planning permission whilst others were not. She advised that it was the opinion of Mid Ulster Planning that planning permission generally would not be necessary for pavement cafés.

In response to Councillor Mulligan's question the Principal Environmental Health Officer advised that the estimated cost of administering a pavement licence application is £370.

Proposed by Councillor McNamee
Seconded by Councillor Reid and

- Resolved** That it be recommended to Council that –
- Council waives the licence fee for Pavement Cafés in the Mid Ulster District with a review to take place after the first year.
 - The Director for Public Health and Infrastructure has delegated authority under the Pavement Café legislation in line with other licensing functions except where an objection has been made to a licence application or a refusal of license is proposed.
 - Given absence of formal guidance to accompany the introduction of the Act that a transitional arrangement is put in place to operate a graduated approach to enforcement over the initial 6 months following the commencement of the Act in order to educate and

assist relevant business prior to the receipt of their licence application.

E251/16 Establishment of a Mid Ulster District Council Bonfire Working Group

The Head of Public Health and Infrastructure presented previously circulated report which proposed the establishment of a Mid Ulster District Council Elected Member Working Group for Bonfires.

Councillor Burton referred to the report mentioned within the Director's report which outlined the roles and responsibilities of agencies in relation to bonfire issues and asked if Members should have viewed this document.

The Director of Public Health and Infrastructure advised this referred to an earlier report commissioned by DOE in 2004 and there had been nothing further since then.

Councillor Burton stated it was important to find a way forward that was respectful. The Councillor also referred to issues in relation to Halloween bonfire at Drumcoo and was not sure a working group was the way forward.

The Chair, Councillor Cuthbertson felt there was a need for a paper outlining the responsibilities of NIEA.

Councillor McFlynn stated that the working group was needed within the district due to the difficulties with some bonfires. The Councillor also felt that the police should be involved in the working group.

The Chair, Councillor Cuthbertson advised that there had been anti social behaviour at last year's Halloween bonfire at Drumcoo however he clarified that the bonfire was not on Council property.

Councillor McGinley stated that the working group should be set up as it was the direction of the Council.

Councillor Reid expressed the need for NIEA to do their job in relation to bonfires and cutting the source of materials (tyres) for such bonfires. The Councillor felt there was no point in another working group.

The Chair, Councillor Cuthbertson felt that Council should write to the Minister in relation to responsibilities regarding disposal of tyres.

Councillor Reid agreed that all Councils should collectively write to the Minister and NIEA regarding their responsibilities.

Councillor McGinley proposed that Committee proceed with establishing working group of five members under d'hondt arrangement.

Councillor B McGuigan seconded Councillor McGinley's proposal.

Nominations were sought -

DUP – Stated they would not nominate to the working group as they did not feel it would resolve issues.

SF – Would nominate two members at a later date.

SDLP- Would nominate at a later date.

UUP – Would not nominate at this stage.

Councillor Kearney felt that, by not nominating to the working group, some parties had missed an opportunity.

Resolved That it be recommended to Council that a Bonfire Working Group be established with Terms of Reference as outlined below –

- Review the current position regarding bonfires set up on Council property.
- Explore the options for reducing negative environmental impacts around bonfires in conjunction with other statutory bodies.
- Propose mechanisms for promotion of Bonfire Safety and sustainable bonfires/celebration events going forward.

Members who wish to sit on the Bonfire Working Group to be advised.

Matters for Information

E252/16 Building Control Report

Members noted previously circulated report which provided update on the workload analysis for Building Control.

E253/16 Entertainment Licensing Applications

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

E254/16 Willow Harvesting at former Glassmullagh Landfill Site

Members noted previously circulated report which provided update on the harvesting of willow on the site of the former Glassmullagh Landfill Site located on Old Ballygawley Road, Dungannon.

E255/16 Completed Schemes 2015-2016

Members noted previously circulated report which provided update on six completed schemes delivered by Mid Ulster District Council in 2015-2016.

E256/16 The introduction of the statutory Food Hygiene Rating Scheme

Members noted previously circulated report which advised on the introduction of the statutory Food Hygiene Rating Scheme which took place on 7 October 2016.

E257/16 Restart a Heart Day 2016

Members noted previously circulated report which advised on Mid Ulster “Restart a Heart Day” events being held on Tuesday 18 October.

E258/16 PHA Funded Programmes 2016/17

Members noted previously circulated report which provided updated on Public Health Agency (PHA) funding which has been confirmed for three ongoing Health and Wellbeing programmes for 2016/17 namely –

- Accident Prevention
- Energy Efficiency Advice Service
- Make a Change engagement programme

Confidential Business

Proposed by Councillor McGinley
Seconded by Councillor McNamee and

Resolved That items E259/16 – E270/16 be taken as confidential business.

E271/16 Duration of Meeting

The meeting was called for 7.00 pm and ended at 10.05 pm

CHAIR _____

DATE _____

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Minutes of Meeting of the Development Committee of Mid Ulster District Council held on Thursday 13 October 2016 in the Council Offices, Burn Road, Cookstown

Members Present Councillor Molloy, Chair

Burton (7.52 pm), Clarke, Cuddy, Doris, Elattar, Forde, McAleer, McNamee, T Quinn, G Shiels and Wilson

Officers in Attendance: Ms Campbell, Director of Culture and Leisure
Mr McCreesh, Director of Business and Communities
Mr Browne, Head of Tourism
Mr Glavin, Head of Leisure
Mr Hill, Head of Parks
Ms Linney, Head of Community Development
Mr McCance, Head of Culture and Arts
Ms Grogan, Committee Services Officer

Others in Attendance: **Agenda Item 4: Northern Counties Co-operative Enterprises Ltd (Swatragh Co-op)**
Mr Paul Coyle General Manager
Ms Noreen Rafferty, Development Assistant

The meeting commenced at 7.00 pm.

D214/16 Apologies

Councillors C O'Neill, McEldowney and J Shiels.

D215/16 Declaration of Interests

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

The Director of Business and Communities advised members that they should be conscious of papers C and O.

Members all present expressed an interest in Business Start Programme (11 Council model) (Dungannon Enterprise Centre).

D216/16 Chair's Business

Councillor McNamee advised that he had been approached by a few sporting groups enquiring if there was any additional funding available from the Sports Development Grant awards.

The Director of Culture and Leisure said that there was still money left in the budget as the original budget was for £50k and funding allocated was £36k with a remainder of £14k left over for a further funding call.

Councillor Wilson felt that this should be opened up to all groups to include hockey clubs etc.

The Director of Culture and Leisure advised that the £36k went to the main sporting governing bodies including Soccer, Rugby, GAA and because it was specific for governing bodies that if a group wants to make an application they will have to do so with a governing body.

Proposed Councillor McNamee
Seconded by Councillor Clarke and

Resolved: That it be recommended to the Council that approval be granted to go out for a second call for available Sport Strategic Development Grant applications.

D217/16 Northern Counties Co-operative Enterprises Limited

The Chair, Councillor Molloy welcomed representatives from Northern Counties Co-operative Enterprises Ltd (Swatragh Co-op) to the Committee. Mr Coyle delivered an overhead presentation on the work carried out by the Northern Counties Co-operative Enterprises Limited and its future plans.

The Chair thanked the representatives for their presentation and advised that it was encouraging to see the great work that's being carried out at Swatragh Co-op and asked for members comments.

Councillor G Shiels declared an interest in Northern Counties Co-operative Enterprises Limited (Swatragh Co-op).

Councillor G Shiels said that it was good to see the livestock mart still in existence which says a lot about who's running the co-op.

Mr Coyle stated that he was passionate about keeping the co-op in existence and it showed the commitment of the community and volunteers associated with it. He said it was very pleasing to report that numbers of both cattle and sheep sold through the livestock mart continues to improve. It was important that continuing support is available to ensure a thriving livestock mart.

Councillor G Shiels enquired what was the likelihood of the livestock mart continuing to trade in the future.

Mr Coyle said like a lot of different organisations, there had been a huge reduction within the last 15 years of local livestock marts. He said that factories were a very big competitor, but there were a few marts still in existence. There is not a huge amount of money being made and try to generate further money through other ways. He advised that it was hard to keep the organisation in existence due to huge livestock marts buying up smaller rural ones.

Councillor Clarke said that it was a good example of community involvement and felt that within the agricultural sector things were considerably tighter and that people

wanted something to attach themselves to and get advice. It's not all about making money but that it was important to keep the culture of livestock marts alive. He said that there is only one active livestock mart remaining in the Cookstown area which is in Pomeroy and it was very important to keep this going as it is a social aspect for people being at the heart of the community and identify with it.

Councillor Clarke stated that it was very important not to stray too far from the core as too many businesses have taken on a completely different avenue and hadn't worked. He said that it would still be an important feature in years to come in Swatragh.

Mr Coyle advised that in the last 18 months the organisation had sat down with Directors and drew up a vision to try and keep the Agricultural sector alive.

The Director of Business and Communities stated that the Pomeroy livestock mart is being considered under the Village Plan initiative and that he had witnessed first-hand last Friday the tremendous hive of activity at Fivemiletown Livestock Mart. He said that there was a lot of angles in social business and that a team would be in contact with Mr Coyle regarding Social Business Enterprise.

Councillor McNamee advised Mr Coyle that it would be beneficial for his organisation to keep in mind the new area plan and the different road shows which will be arranged to should show representation to gain their land for housing etc.

Mr Coyle agreed that this would be beneficial as there was a decent size of a field available to be zoned for housing.

The Chair and the Director of Business and Communities advised that any support they could offer to Mr Coyle and his organisation, they would be more than pleased to help.

The Chair thanked representatives for their presentation at which they left the meeting at 7.30 pm.

D218/16 Confirmation of Minutes

Proposed by Councillor McNamee
Seconded by Councillor Forde and

Resolved: That the minutes of the meeting of the Development Committee held on Thursday 15 September 2016 (D191/16 to D209/16 and D213/16), were considered and signed as correct and accurate.

Councillor McAleer advised that she should have declared an interest in Ballygawley Development Association last month.

Councillor Doris enquired about the current situation regarding the Gaelscoil Ui Neill at Gortgonis.

The Head of Parks advised that a paper was supposed to be brought to the September meeting proposing to plant a significant area of Cabin Wood in Cookstown, but was put on hold as currently seeking legal advice on the situation. It is anticipated that a further report will be brought to this Committee in due course.

Matters for Decision

D219/16 Economic Development Report

The Director of Business and Communities drew attention to the previously circulated report to provide Members with an update on key activities as detailed below:

- 1) Maghera Wi-Fi**
- 2) Magherafelt Town Centre Forum**
- 3) Magherafelt Public Art Gateway Feature**

The Director of Business and Communities advised that Council has agreed previously to the location of the main art piece into the town centre roundabout. The second piece of art to be located at the Castledawson roundabout as per the design sketch.

Councillor Wilson enquired about the proposed implementation of the art pieces.

The Director of Business and Communities stated that the art pieces were being assembled in the Council yard and although scheduled into the scheme, he couldn't give an exact date when they would be implemented, however it will be before the end of the Public Realm Scheme.

Councillor Elattar advised that the art pieces which she had seen in the Council yard were very impressive.

4) Coalisland Development Framework Plan

Councillor G Shiels enquired about the current situation regarding the shop front scheme.

The Director of Business and Communities advised that 116 shop front scheme applications were successful and it is hoped to have all complete by March 2017.

The Director of Business and Communities advised members that there was an urgent requirement to investigate long term dilapidation within towns especially Dungannon, and that options would be brought before Committee in due course.

- 5) Mid Ulster Skills Forum**
- 6) Maghera Development Framework**

7) Department for Communities (DfC) Revitalise Scheme 2016/2017 – Magherafelt Town Centre

Proposed by Councillor Doris
Seconded by Councillor Clarke

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

- 1) Maghera Wi-Fi**
Note Progress. “Wi-Fi Spark” appointed to deliver Wi-Fi. Work to commence in the coming weeks.
- 2) Magherafelt Town Centre Forum**
Agreeing structures to proceed and set up the first meeting of the Magherafelt Town Centre Forum.
- 3) Magherafelt Public Art**
Agree the £15,000 contribution to TNI for the installation of the Gateway Art piece at the Castledawson Roundabout.
- 4) Coalisland Development Framework Plan**
Approve final draft of the Coalisland Development Framework Plan.
Note progress on the Coalisland Public Realm Scheme.
- 5) Mid Ulster Skills Forum**
Agree structures to proceed and set up the first meeting of the Mid Ulster Skills Forum.
- 6) Maghera Development Framework**
Note progress.
- 7) Department of Communities (DfC) Revitalise Scheme 2016/2017 – Magherafelt Town Centre**
To agree proposed application to DfC for the projects identified. That subject to securing a letter of offer from DfC, qualified companies are procured in accordance with the Council’s Procurement Policy.

D220/16 Community Development Report

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

- 1) Seek approval for community grant award recommendations
- 2) Update Members on the ongoing development re the provision of town centre CCTV systems in Mid Ulster
- 3) An update will be presented on Peace IV Regional Shared Space Project at the next Committee.
- 4) Update on progress relating to the Community Development Section.

Proposed by Councillor McNamee

Seconded by Councillor Forde and

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

1) **Good Relations and Community Festivals grant award recommendations.**

Proposed by Councillor McNamee
Seconded by Councillor Forde and

Resolved: That it be recommended to the Council to grant approval to the Good Relations and Community Festivals grant awards.

2) **Provision of Town Centre CCTV Systems in Mid Ulster**

Proposed by Councillor McNamee
Seconded by Councillor Clarke and

Resolved: That it be recommended to the Council to grant approval for budget of £28,000 to procure the inclusion of new technology for CCTV.

3) **Update on the Peace IV Shared Space Project**

Proposed by Councillor McNamee
Seconded by Councillor Forde and

Resolved: That it be recommended to the Council to agree the detail of the proposed Peace IV Regional Shared Space Project.

4) **Community Development Section**

Proposed by Councillor McNamee
Seconded by Councillor Clarke and

Resolved: That it be recommended to the Council that an update on the Peace IV Project would be presented to the next Development Committee meeting.

Councillor Burton entered the meeting at 7.52pm.

Councillor Wilson referred to PCSP and advised that it would be useful if PCSP meetings minutes were brought to Development Committee.

The Head of Community Development advised that she would include PCSP as a standing item on the Agenda to include Minutes of meetings.

Resolved: That it be recommended to the Council that PCSP minutes be included in the report to Development Committee for information.

Councillor T Quinn declared an interest in PCSP as a member of the Committee.

Councillor T Quinn stated that there was tremendous work being carried out by the PCSP which wasn't evident to the public. He advised that the committee works in conjunction with other organisations like hoteliers and taxi/tour operators etc.

The Head of Community Development advised as per the report reference that a full 6 month review of all community areas would be presented at the next meeting.

Councillor Burton declared an interest in PCSP.

D221/16 Bann Valley Community Group

The Head of Parks drew attention to the previously circulated report to request that Bann Valley Community Group Project receive support from Mid Ulster District Council.

Proposed by Councillor Wilson
Seconded by Councillor Burton and

Resolved: That it be recommended to the Council that approval be granted subject to all formal landowner agreements and Letter of Offer conditions being met by the Bann Community Group, Mid Ulster District Council would support the request in the form of a conditional letter of commitment to manage and maintain the designated path for a period not in excess of ten years post project completion.

D222/16 Irish Language Action Plan Update

The Head of Culture and Arts drew attention to the previously circulated report to update Council regarding the implementation of the 2016/17 Irish Language community support activity funding and to seek approval to develop and expand this activity from within existing allocated resources in order to meet demand identified through a publicly advertised Expression of Interest process.

Councillor Cuddy enquired about bursaries and thought they were oversubscribed.

The Head of Culture and Arts advised that more applications were received this year than last year with extra an £20,000 funding from last year's budget being made available to spend within the scheme.

In response to Councillor Cuddy's query about budget allocation, the Head of Culture and Arts advised that this year there will be a larger contribution because there was more demand this year.

Councillor Wilson raised concern about £90 room-hire cost and felt that this was very expensive. He enquired if this could be renegotiated.

The Head of Culture and Arts said that he would investigate and bring an update back to Committee.

Councillor Cuddy said that it would be beneficial to include a town or village's name and address so members know where it is.

The Head of Culture and Arts said that he would include a map to highlight the whereabouts of the organisation.

Proposed by Councillor McNamee
Seconded by Councillor Clarke and

Resolved: That it be recommended to the Council that an additional £20,749 be allocated from within the Irish Language programme to deliver the Community Support Programme and the Opportunities to Learn programme based on the overwhelming response received to date from the community as a result of the Expressions of Interest public call. Investigate the cost of £90 room hire charge to see if this can be renegotiated.

Matters for Information

D223/16 Tourism & Events Work Streams from October – December

The Head of Tourism drew attention to the previously circulated report to update Council on the work and events scheduled for the Tourism & Events department from October – December 2016.

The Head of Tourism advised that the preferred date for the Coalisland Christmas Lights Switch on was Sunday 4th December and would be organised in conjunction with CRAIC Theatre Company.

The Head of Tourism referred to item 3.2 – Tourism Development Group and advised that the next meeting would be held on Wednesday 26th October at 10.30 am instead of 2 pm in the Seamus Heaney HomePlace.

Councillor Clarke enquired about where the Council were sitting on the Area of Natural Beauty (AONB).

The Director of Business and Communities said he would bring a paper to a future Committee meeting.

Councillor Clarke referred to the tragedy in Davagh Forest on Wednesday night in which two people were out running and one person collapsed and unfortunately passed away. He said that when trying to contact the emergency services, there was no mobile phone coverage with the person running to the nearest house quite a distance away. He said that there is a need to have adequate mobile phone coverage in the area in case of emergencies.

The Director of Business and Communities agreed that it was a tragedy and would endeavour to try and investigate options on how to improve the network coverage in remote areas like Davagh Forest.

Resolved: That it be recommended to the Council that:

- 1) Members note the contents of the report on Tourism & Events Work Streams from October – December.
- 2) Paper be brought to a future Development Committee meeting on update relating to Area of Natural Beauty (AONB)
- 3) Investigate options on how to improve mobile network coverage in remote areas like Davagh Forest.

D224/16 Hidden Heritage and European Heritage Open Days

The Head of Tourism drew attention to the previously circulated report to inform Council about the Hidden Heritage Programme 2016 from 21st June until 20th August 2016 and the European Heritage Open Days 10th and 11th September.

Councillor Wilson referred to the event which was held in Killymoon Castle recently which was sold out. He advised that the owner's father had passed away two days before, but they still kept the commitment and went ahead with the event. He felt that the owner should be acknowledged for her commitment in her time of bereavement.

Councillor T Quinn referred to a recent news story in the media about Mid Ulster being identified as a "giant hotspot" by scientists studying a gene defect which causes people to grow abnormally tall. He stated that the "Irish Giant" Charles Byrne originated from Drummullan, outside Cookstown and this was an opportunity to identify another hidden gem within our area.

Resolved: That it be recommended to the Council that Members notes the content of the report on Hidden Heritage and European Heritage Open Days.

D225/16 Update on Visitor Information Centres April – September 2016

The Head of Tourism drew attention to the previously circulated report to update Council on the function of the Visitor Information Centre's (VIC's) from April 2016 – September 2016.

Resolved: That it be recommended to the Council that Members note the contents of the report on Update on Visitor Information Centres April – September 2016.

D226/16 Leisure Services Progress Report

The Head of Leisure drew attention to the previously circulated report to update Members of the progress being made regarding activities in Leisure Services and highlight events that will be occurring in the future.

Resolved: That it be recommended to the Council that Members note the contents of the report on Leisure Service Progress.

D227/16 Countryside Management Services – Countryside Access

The Head of Parks drew attention to the previously circulated report to update Members of the progress being made regarding the investigation of alleged Public Rights of Way (PROW).

Resolved: That it be recommended to the Council that Members note the contents of the report on Countryside Management Services – Countryside Access.

D228/16 Parks Service Progress Report

The Head of Parks drew attention to the previously circulated report to update Members of the progress being made regarding activities and associated to Parks Service and highlight events or consultations that will be occurring in the future.

Resolved: That it be recommended to the Council that Members note the contents of the report on Parks Service Progress.

D229/16 Culture and Arts Progress Report

The Head of Culture and Arts drew attention to the previously circulated report to update Members on the progress being made in Culture and Arts Services and to highlight events that have occurred during the month of September. Also to identify events and activities within Culture and Arts Services that will be occurring in the future.

Resolved: That it be recommended to the Council that Members note the contents of the report on Culture and Arts Progress.

D230/16 Irish Language Programme Participation Levels

The Head of Culture and Arts drew attention to the previously circulated report to present to Council the participation levels of the Irish Language Programme being delivered by Irish Language Officers from Sept 2015 – present.

Resolved: That it be recommended to the Council that Members note the contents of the report on Irish Language Programme Participation Levels.

Confidential Business

Proposed by Councillor McNamee
Seconded by Councillor Forde

Resolved: That items (D231/16 to D235/16) be taken as confidential business.

D236/16 Duration of Meeting

The meeting commenced at 7.00 pm and ended at 8.45 pm.

CHAIRMAN _____

DATE _____

G

Subject	Conferences & Seminars – October 2016
Reporting Officer	P Moffett, Head of Democratic Services
Contact Officer	E Forde, Member Support Officer

1	Purpose of Report
1.1	Provide an update on seminars and conferences received. To seek approval for attendance and the payment of registration/ attendance fees and associated costs, as incurred.

2	Background
2.1	The following seminar/ conference sessions are presented for consideration of representation from Mid Ulster Council.
2.1	Approval for Consideration of Attendance by Members
2.1.1	RTPI Politicians in Planning Association Network (PIPA) Conference 2016 – Overcoming common challenges across the UK and Ireland through Planning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Saturday 19 November 2016 at Friends Meeting House, Mount Street, Manchester
2.1.2	Future Places – using heritage to build resilient communities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Wednesday 23 November 2016 9.30am – 3.30pm at Cultra Manor, Folk and Transport Museum, Cultra · Councillors Clarke, Glasgow and Reid
2.1.3	Agriculture & food conference – moving from recovery to growth <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Thursday 1 December 2016 9.00 am – 1.30pm, Craigavon Civic Centre, Craigavon
2.2	Officer Approvals
2.2.1	There are occasions when it is beneficial to the organisation for Officers to attend conferences and seminars. Approval is sought for attendance as detailed in Appendix B to this report.

3	Key Issues
3.1	N/A

4	Resources
4.1	<u>Financial</u>
4.1.1	RTPI Politicians in Planning Association Network (PIPA) Conference 2016 – Overcoming common challenges across the UK and Ireland through Planning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Attendance fee £25, travel and subsistence
4.1.2	Future Places – using heritage to build resilient communities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Attendance is free of Charge, travel and subsistence only
4.1.3	Agriculture & food conference – moving from recovery to growth <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · £175 plus VAT, travel and subsistence

5	Other Considerations
5.1	Costs associated will be set against 2016-17 member Conference and Seminar allocations.

6	Recommendations
6.1	Approval for attendance at the conferences/ seminars by members and council officers as required.

7	List of Documents Attached
7.1	Appendix A Conferences & Seminar Details Appendix B Officer Approvals



RTPI

mediation of space

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Cookstown Office
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Cookstown
Northern Ireland
BT80 8DT

Royal Town Planning Ins
41 Botolph Lane
London
EC3R 8DL
Tel +44 (0)20 7929 9494
Email contact@rtpi.org.uk
Website www.rtpi.org.uk

Patron HRH The Prince

Dear Sir or Madam,

The RTPI Politicians in Planning Association Network (PIPA) Conference 2016 - Overcoming our challenges through planning

Saturday 19 November | Friends Meeting House, Mount Street, Manchester

Booking now open

The 2016 PIPA Conference for local planning Councillors across England will take place at the Friends Meeting House, Manchester. I would be grateful if you could promote the event through your committee chairs. To book your place simply visit www.rtpi.org.uk/pipa and provide the candidate's details on the e booking page, or email pipa@rtpi.org.uk and we can arrange for you.

As you know, planning powers are devolved in the United Kingdom. But the *challenges* of delivering *housing infrastructure* and *enhancing the environment* are common, faced by decision makers in each. For the first time, the annual RTPI PIPA conference will open its doors to politicians in all four nations of the United Kingdom and Ireland to explore common themes faced by local elected decision makers, to learn from each other and take back with them the tools to help them make the most of their planning decision making powers.

Levels of delegate satisfaction have been consistently high and this year we are keen to focus on up to date planning issues which are relevant to your members including delivering housing, neighbourhood planning, place making and maximising the benefits of major infrastructure projects. The format will be in the form of plenary sessions and breakout sessions designed to generate discussion. This year there will be a fee of £100 which will include access to a variety of plenary and breakout sessions and include lunch.

It is not essential that conference attendees are members of PIPA network, but I do hope that your authority will consider having at least one member of this RTPI Network.

If you have any queries, then please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Harry Burchill MRTPI
Planning Policy Officer
Royal Town Planning Institute



NO

POLITICIANS IN PLANNING CONFERENCE

19 NOVEMBER 2016 | MANCHESTER



OVERCOMING COMMON CHALLENGES ACROSS THE UK AND IRELAND THROUGH PLANNING

This is a must attend event for politicians, councillors and anyone elected to a public body. The conference will provide delegates from across the UK with a unique opportunity to come together to understand and debate the topical issues the industry faces, hear from experts in the field and seek advice on current issues in their area.

SPONSORED BY:



@RTPIPLANNERS

BACKGROUND

Planning powers are devolved to the regions of the United Kingdom and Ireland, but the challenges of delivering housing, infrastructure and enhancing the environment are common challenges faced by decision makers in each. We are now seeing more recognition of this by central government, not least in the setting up of a National Infrastructure Commission.

For the first time, the annual PIPA conference will open up to politicians all four regions of the United Kingdom and Ireland to explore common themes faced by local elected decision makers. Delegates will learn from each other and take back with them the tools to help them make the most of their planning decision making powers.

KEY TOPICS

- Meeting the needs of a growing population - Northern Powerhouse and GMCA
- Will simplification help our decision-making? The Impact of the Housing and Planning Act in England, Planning Review Scotland, Planning (Wales) Act and planning reform in Northern Ireland.

Workshops: Housing, Infrastructure, Governance and Place making

SPEAKERS

- [Cllr Keith House](#), Eastleigh Borough Council
- [Eamonn Boylan](#), Stockport Council
- [Paul Gibbs](#), David Jarvis Associates
- [Adam Dodgshon](#), Planning Advisory Service
- [Carole-Ann Davies](#), Comisiwn Dylunio Cymru, Design Commission for Wales
- [Alister Scott](#), Birmingham City University
- [Trudi Elliott](#), RTPi
- [Mark Winnington](#), Staffordshire County Council
- [Phil Mayall](#), Muse Developments
- [David Waterhouse](#), Design Council
- [Ross Martin](#), Scottish Council for Development and Industry
- [James Hennessey](#), The Paul Hogarth Centre for Living Places
- [Angus Kerr](#), Department for Infrastructure Northern Ireland



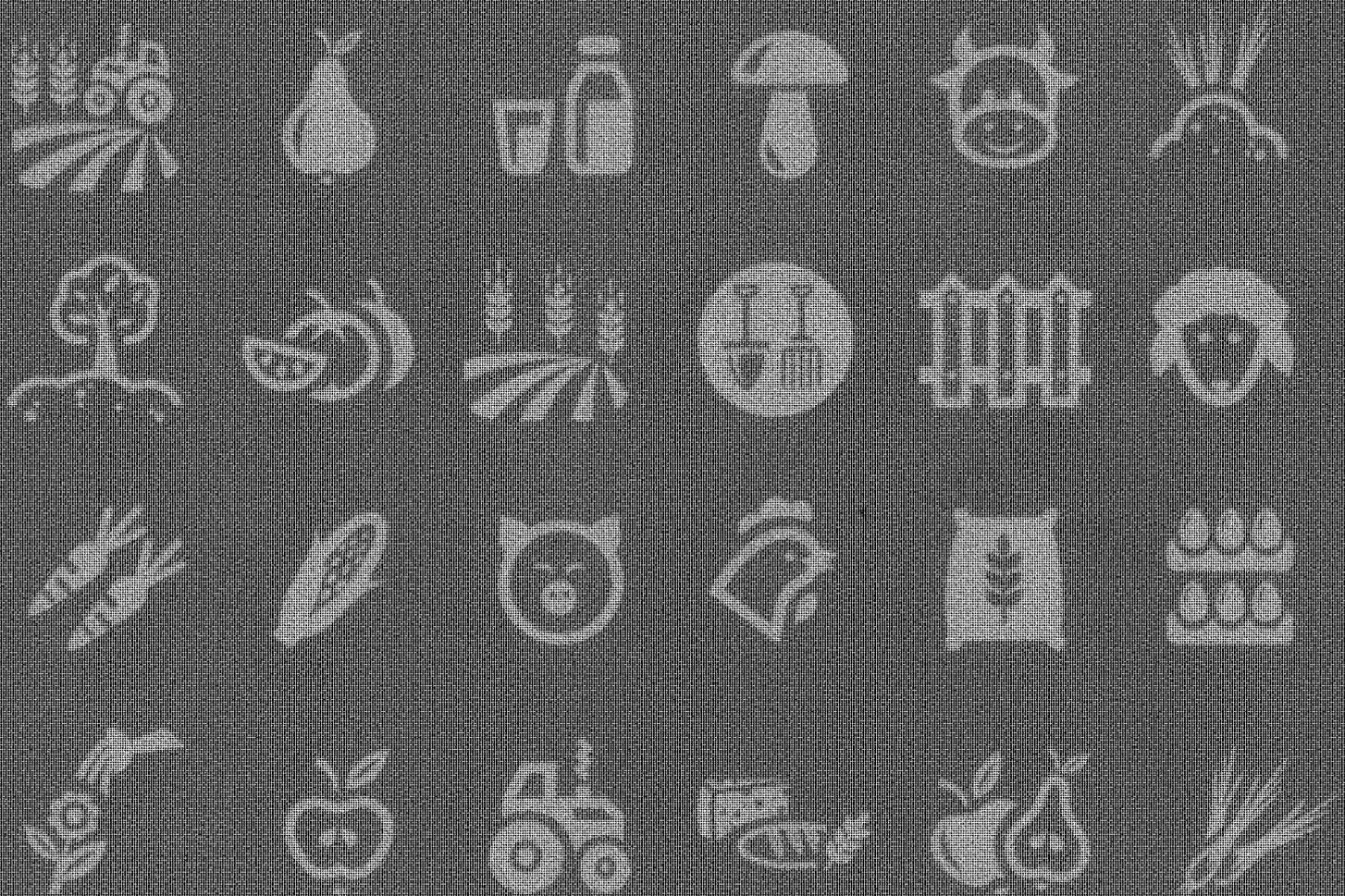
This symposium provides an opportunity for key decision-makers to consider how we can take an integrated approach to the richness and diversity of our heritage assets in planning for the future. It is organised by the Council for Nature Conservation and the Countryside (DAERA), the Historic Buildings Council and the Historic Monuments Council (DfC).

The members of these Statutory Advisory Councils (SAC), are people interested in different aspects of heritage who bring a wealth of individual knowledge, commitment and expertise to their work for the public benefit. The focus of the day will be on achieving this benefit more widely across Northern Ireland for the well being of people and communities in the context of the Local Development Plan process and the draft Programme for Government 2016-2021. The symposium addresses the importance of our cultural landscape assets, the role that agriculture plays in shaping rural landscapes, townscapes and how they both contribute to the wellbeing and resilience of our rural and urban communities in the future.

Attendance is free, but capacity will be limited, so early registration of interest is recommended.

Agriculture & food conference

Moving from recovery to growth



Thursday 1st December 2016 • Craigavon Civic Centre, Co. Armagh

www.agendaNi.com/events

Organised by **agendaNi**

Supported by



Armagh City
Banbridge
& Craigavon
Borough Council

**Food
Heartland**
Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon



agendaNi's 6th annual Northern Ireland Agriculture and Food conference continues to be the main get together for the key players in the local agriculture and food sectors. Now more than ever, the event provides an important opportunity to discuss policy, review research, and to strategise for the future of the industry.

Agri-food continues to be one of Northern Ireland's best performing sectors. The 2016 Northern Ireland Year of Food and Drink has proven to be an important global showcase for local produce and has cemented Northern Ireland's position within the world market. The local economic impact of the industry is highlighted by the fact that for every new job in agri-food, two new jobs are created elsewhere.

While overall growth of the sector remains healthy, there is no doubt that farmers have been struggling for some time. Livestock and dairy farmers have suffered in successive years, while Northern Ireland's pigs, vegetable and grain producers have been impacted by dysfunction in the supply chain and falling prices. The latest report shows the £183 million income for Northern Ireland farming in 2015 to be a reduction in real terms of 42 per cent.

Our food and drink processing sector continues its steady performance with provisional estimates indicating sales have increased to £4,596 million in 2015. The export sales within the sector to the Republic of Ireland were worth £708 million in 2014; representing 16 per cent of total sales.

Much has been written about the potential fallout from the Brexit vote hitting Northern Ireland hardest, with implications for its biggest trading partner south of the border, at present representing 21 per cent of total exports. Over the period 2004-2014 the export market value from Northern Ireland to the EU grew by 28 per cent. 12,000 farming families in Northern Ireland have depended heavily on the support that the CAP has provided through the Single Farm Payment, so while this assistance remains in place until 2019, there is no clear indication what will replace it in a Brexit scenario. A significant drop in the value of sterling presents a challenge to the value of the export market, so new markets outside the EU region will undoubtedly have to be sourced.

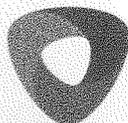
These issues all combine to create a challenging operating environment for the industry. This annual conference seeks to provide clarity on policy issues, and provide an overview of the current opportunities and challenges in the agri-food industry, by way of a panel of local and visiting experts.

Topics discussed will include:

- ✓ Challenges and opportunities facing the dairy, red meat and grain sectors
- ✓ Educating and finding the next farming generation
- ✓ Global agri-food outlook
- ✓ Looking to the future of farming
- ✓ Brexit: What it means for the agri-food industry

Food Heartland Forum

Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council has identified the agri-food sector as one of its priority growth sectors and has established The Food Heartland Forum – a network of people from all parts of the sector who work together to drive the sector forward. The Forum is developing the sector by highlighting the importance of food and drink competitions and awards, as well as encouraging innovation and entrepreneurship within the agri-food industry throughout the borough.



Armagh City
Banbridge
& Craigavon
Borough Council



Speakers



Jonathan Brooks is Head of the Agro-Food Trade and Markets Division in the OECD's Trade and Agriculture Directorate, which produces the annual OECD-FAO Agricultural Outlook and undertakes a range of analysis of the links between policies and markets. His research has focused on agricultural policy, trade and development. Before joining the OECD in 1999, Jonathan was a lecturer at the University of Reading and worked on a range of consultancy projects.



Gabriel D'Arcy was appointed CEO of Town of Monaghan Co-Operative in 2014 and is now CEO of LacPatrick Co-Operative following Monaghan's merger with Ballyrashane Co-operative in 2015. Prior to this Gabriel was Managing Director of Bord na Móna and led its transformation from being a peat based entity into a leader in renewable energy over the past seven years. Gabriel moved to Bord na Móna from Kerry Ingredients where he held a number of positions over the previous 18 years.



Richard Halleron is an agricultural Chemist by background. He is a past chairman of the Northern Ireland Institute of Agricultural Science and has also served as chairman of the Guild of Agricultural Journalists in Northern Ireland. Richard currently writes on agri-food issues for a wide range of business publications, including agendaNi and Farming Life.



Tony O'Neill is Chair of the Agri-Food Strategy Board and Group Deputy Chief Executive at Dunbia. He is also Joint Chair of the Future Skills Action Group and is a past Chair of the Northern Ireland Food and Drink Association. Previously he was Marketing and Business Development Director of Moy Park as well as a Director of the British Poultry Council, Chairman of the Northern Ireland Poultry Federation with a wide range of experience in several high profile food brands. He was a previous member of the Industry Advisory Panel which jointly produced the Focus on Food strategy.



Ian Stevenson has served as Chief Executive of the Livestock and Meat Commission for Northern Ireland (LMC) since 2011, working before as Industry Development Manager. He is responsible to levy payers and the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs for delivering an effective and efficient programme of market information, assurance, education, promotion and technical activities. Ian has worked for 10 years in the Ulster Farmers Union policy team and previously for four years with Moy Park.



Kevin Tuck is Managing Director of Alltech Ireland, having joined the company in 1990. Previously the Sales Manager for Ireland, from 2005 to 2008 he was the European Regional Director with responsibility for Ireland, Scandinavia and the Baltic States. Kevin also held the position of Global Ruminant Product Manager and was promoted to Managing Director of Alltech's European Bioscience Centre in 2012. Prior to joining Alltech, Kevin worked in the pet food industry for 10 years and held the position of General Manager of a feed extrusion plant.



Roger Wilson was appointed as Chief Executive of Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council on 1 April 2014. Prior to this he was Chief Executive of Coleraine Borough Council, before which he was Strategic Director of Corporate Services with Armagh City and District Council. He was formerly Head of HR and Organisational Development with Craigavon Borough Council and has also worked in the private sector. He is a Chartered Company Secretary, obtained his MBA in Public Administration from the University of Ulster and is a graduate of the Federal Executive Institute, Charlottesville, Virginia.

"The agri-food industry makes a very valuable contribution to the Northern Ireland economy, with around 100,000 people being employed in the food chain...By working collectively, we can build a dynamic and flexible industry that is well positioned in the global marketplace to capitalise on the growing demand for food worldwide and to meet both the challenges and opportunities presented by the EU exit"

Michelle McIveen MBE
Minister for Agriculture, Environment
and Rural Affairs, June 2016

Conference programme

0900 Chairman's welcome and introduction:
Richard Halleron, Agricultural Journalist

Welcome from **Councillor Garath Keating**
Lord Mayor, Armagh City, Banbridge and
Craigavon Borough Council

*The priorities for Northern Irish agriculture
post Brexit*
Michelle McIlveen, Minister for Agriculture,
Environment and Rural Affairs (invited)

*Global food security: Challenges for the food
and agricultural system*
Jonathan Brooks, Head of Division, Agro-food,
Trade and Markets, **OECD**

*Investing in and supporting long term growth
within the agri-food sector*
Tony O'Neill, Chair, Agri-Food Strategy Board

*The Food Heartland Forum: Supporting
innovation and entrepreneurship in agri-food*
Roger Wilson, Chief Executive, Armagh City,
Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council

Questions & answers / Panel discussion

1045 Morning coffee / networking break

1115 *Addressing the challenges facing the dairy
industry*
Gabriel D'Arcy, Chief Executive, LacPatrick

Key issues for the local grain trade industry
Robin Irvine, Chief Executive
Northern Ireland Grain Trade Association

*Looking to the future of the industry: Educating
the next generation*
Martin McKendry, Director
College of Agriculture Food & Rural Enterprise
(CAFRE)

*The future of export development in the red
meat industry*
Ian Stevenson, Chief Executive
Livestock and Meat Commission

Science as a driver of industry group
Kevin Tuck, Managing Director, Alltech Ireland

Questions & answers / Panel discussion

1315 Conference lunch / networking break

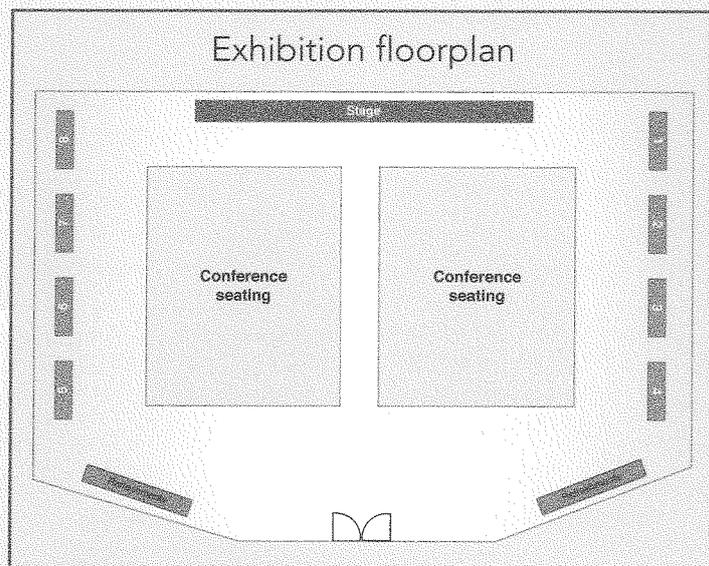
Sponsorship and exhibition opportunities

There are a number of available
sponsorship and exhibition
opportunities at this conference.

Sponsorship of this event is an
excellent way for organisations to raise
their profile with a key audience of
senior decision-makers from across the
agri-food sector in Northern Ireland.
The event offers a limited number of
high quality exhibition opportunities
which will be of interest to companies

and organisations with products or services they wish to promote to this key audience.

For further information on how your organisation can benefit, contact **Conor Keenan** on
+44 (0) 28 9261 9933 or email conor.keenan@agendani.com



Appendix B Approval Sought

Conference & Seminar	Date	No. of Attendees	Location	Attendance Fee (Yes/ No)
BTO Birdwatchers Conference	5 th November 16	1	Lough Neagh Discovery Centre	Yes
CIPD NI Wellbeing & Employee Engagement Conference	28 th November 16	3	Belfast	Yes
Conveyancing Conference	26 th October	1	Belfast	Yes
All Island Local Authority Forum – Women's Leadership Seminar	15 th November	2	Dundalk	Yes

Retrospective Approval Sought

Conference & Seminar	Date	No. of Attendees	Location	Attendance Fee (Yes/ No)
Food Standards Agency - Parliamentary Reception	11 th October	1	London	Flights only

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Subject	Consultations notified to Mid Ulster District Council
Reporting Officer	Philip Moffett, Head of Democratic Services

1	Purpose of Report
1.1	To update members on the consultations notified to Mid Ulster District Council for comment, since the last meeting of Council.

2	Background
2.1	Council is a consultee for many government departments, statutory agencies and other bodies, and as such receives consultation documentation inviting commentary on a wide range of issues which may be pertinent to council services and/or the District.

3	Key Issues																											
3.1	<p>The following outlines the open consultations of which Council has been notified:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Organisation</th> <th>Issue</th> <th>Closing Date</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Department of Health</td> <td>Consultation on Protect Life 2 – A draft strategy for suicide prevention in the North of Ireland.</td> <td>4 Nov 2016</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Maze Long Kesh Development Corporation</td> <td>Consultation on the Disability Action Plan for the Maze Long Kesh Development Corporation.</td> <td>16 Dec 2016</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Post Office</td> <td>Consultation on proposed move of Donaghmore Post Office, 47 Main Street, Donaghmore to new premises at Centra, Main Street, Donaghmore.</td> <td>04 Nov 2016</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Department for Communities</td> <td>Local Government (Payment to Councillors) Regulations (NI) 2016</td> <td>30 Nov 2016</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Department for Communities</td> <td>Consultation on proposals for the provision of strategic support to the voluntary and community sector (VCS) in Northern Ireland 2017-2021.</td> <td>02 Nov 2016</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Education Authority (EA)</td> <td>Regional Area Plan for Education – <i>Providing Pathways 2017-2020</i></td> <td>12 December</td> </tr> <tr> <td>GOV.UK Department for Work and Pensions</td> <td>Interim Report and Consultation on State Pension age – Independent Review.</td> <td>31 Dec 2016</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Northern Ireland Office – Under-Secretary of State for NI</td> <td>Consultation on the Future Delivery of Electoral Services in Northern Ireland.</td> <td>09 Jan 2017</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Organisation	Issue	Closing Date	Department of Health	Consultation on Protect Life 2 – A draft strategy for suicide prevention in the North of Ireland.	4 Nov 2016	Maze Long Kesh Development Corporation	Consultation on the Disability Action Plan for the Maze Long Kesh Development Corporation.	16 Dec 2016	Post Office	Consultation on proposed move of Donaghmore Post Office, 47 Main Street, Donaghmore to new premises at Centra, Main Street, Donaghmore.	04 Nov 2016	Department for Communities	Local Government (Payment to Councillors) Regulations (NI) 2016	30 Nov 2016	Department for Communities	Consultation on proposals for the provision of strategic support to the voluntary and community sector (VCS) in Northern Ireland 2017-2021.	02 Nov 2016	Education Authority (EA)	Regional Area Plan for Education – <i>Providing Pathways 2017-2020</i>	12 December	GOV.UK Department for Work and Pensions	Interim Report and Consultation on State Pension age – Independent Review.	31 Dec 2016	Northern Ireland Office – Under-Secretary of State for NI	Consultation on the Future Delivery of Electoral Services in Northern Ireland.	09 Jan 2017
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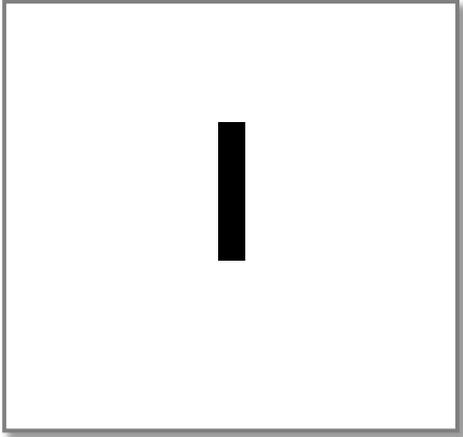
	Documentation on the aforementioned consultations may be provided on request.
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4	Resources
4.1	<u>Financial</u> - N/A
4.2	<u>Human</u> - N/A
4.3	<u>Basis for Professional/ Consultancy Support</u> - N/A
4.4	<u>Other</u> - N/A

5	Other Considerations
5.1	Not applicable

6	Recommendations
6.1	Members review and note the open consultations.

7	List of documents attached
7.1	Not applicable.



Subject	Correspondence to Council – October
Reporting Officer	P Moffett, Head of Democratic Services

1	Purpose of Report
1.1	Provide an update on correspondence received for attention of Council.

2	Background
2.1	This paper makes reference to correspondence received to be brought to the attention of Council. Three items are referred to below.

3	Key Issues
3.1	Correspondence from Minister for Infrastructure
3.1.1	<p>The council carried a motion at its June 2016 meeting on maternity/ paternity/ sick pay for councillors, as follows.</p> <p><i>“That this council notes with concern the deficit that exists within current local government legislation to provide full access to democracy in times of maternity/paternity/sick leave for Councillors.</i></p> <p><i>This council resolves to write to and seek an urgent meeting with the Minister for Communities to discuss the need for legislative change to ensure that rate payers are best represented at all times and to ensure that there are no barriers to public life for those who seek elected office”</i></p> <p>The Minister initially responded indicating that these matters were being considered by officials through a Finance Working Group and it would be appropriate to allow this process to conclude before deciding on need for a meeting. The Chair has again corresponded with the Minister and a copy of the response is attached as Appendix A, in which reference is made to aspects of the council’s request being potentially a matter for the Northern Ireland Office.</p>
3.2	Correspondence from Dept of Infrastructure – Aghaloo Road, Ballygawley (Weight Restrictions)
3.2.1	The Department has corresponded on its proposal to place a 7.5 Tonne weight restriction on Aghaloo Road, Ballygawley and has requested that this be brought to the attention of Council. The letter and map showing the road location is attached as Appendix B.
3.3	Correspondence from NILGA – Britain in Bloom Results
3.3.1	The Chief Executive of NILGA has corresponded on behalf of the Association to

	congratulate the council on the achievement of a Gold Award and joint category winner in the Village Category for Castlecaufield, along with two special awards in the 2016 Royal Horticultural Society Britain in Bloom awards. The letter is attached as Appendix C.
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4	Resources
4.1	<u>Financial</u> N/A
4.2	<u>Human</u> N/A
4.3	<u>Basis for Professional/ Consultancy Support</u> N/A
4.4	<u>Other</u> N/A

5	Other Considerations
5.1	N/A

6	Recommendations
6.1	That Council notes and consider, as necessary, the correspondence received.

7	List of Documents Attached
7.1	Appendix A Minister for Infrastructure Appendix B Dept of Infrastructure, Aghaloo Road, Ballygawley (Weight Restrictions) Appendix C NILGA and Britain in Bloom 2016 Results



Department for

Communitieswww.communities-ni.gov.uk

From: The Minister

5th Floor
Lighthouse Building
1 Cromac Place
Gasworks Business Park
Ormeau Road
Belfast
BT7 2JB

e-mail: Private.Office@communities-ni.gov.uk

Tel: (028) 90829034

Councillor Trevor Wilson, Chair
Mid Ulster District Council
Cookstown Office
Burn Road
Cookstown
BT80 8T

Our ref: INV/1501/2016
22 September 2016

Dear Trevor

Thank you for your kind invitation to meet a delegation of councillors from Mid Ulster District Council to discuss the provision of full access to democracy in time of maternity, paternity and sick leave for councillors.

Following discussion between my officials and council officers, I understand that the main thrust of this request is to discuss temporary co-option arrangements. Assuming this to be the case I would advise that co-opting, Section 11 of the Electoral Law Act (NI) 1962 refers, is a matter for the Secretary of State and the Northern Ireland Office, who has responsibility for electoral policy.

However, I would also advise you that my officials are continuing to explore the related subject of statutory maternity/sick leave/pay etc for councillors under the remit of the Finance Working Group. Representatives from each council form part of that group.

Yours sincerely

PAUL GIVAN MLA
Minister for Communities



transportni

Network Development

Mr Tohill
Mid Ulster Council
Magherafelt Office
Ballyronan
Magherafelt
BT45 6EN



Department for

Infrastructure

An Roinn

Bonneagair

www.infrastructure-ni.gov.uk

County Hall
Drumragh Avenue
Omagh

Tel: 028 8225 4085

Our references:

28 September 2016

Dear Mr Tohill

**PROPOSED 7.5 TONNE WEIGHT RESTRICTION – AGHALOO ROAD,
BALLYGAWLEY**

TransportNI is proposing to introduce a 7.5 tonne weight restriction on Aghaloo Road, Ballygawley as shown on the attached map.

PSNI have been consulted and are in agreement with the proposal.

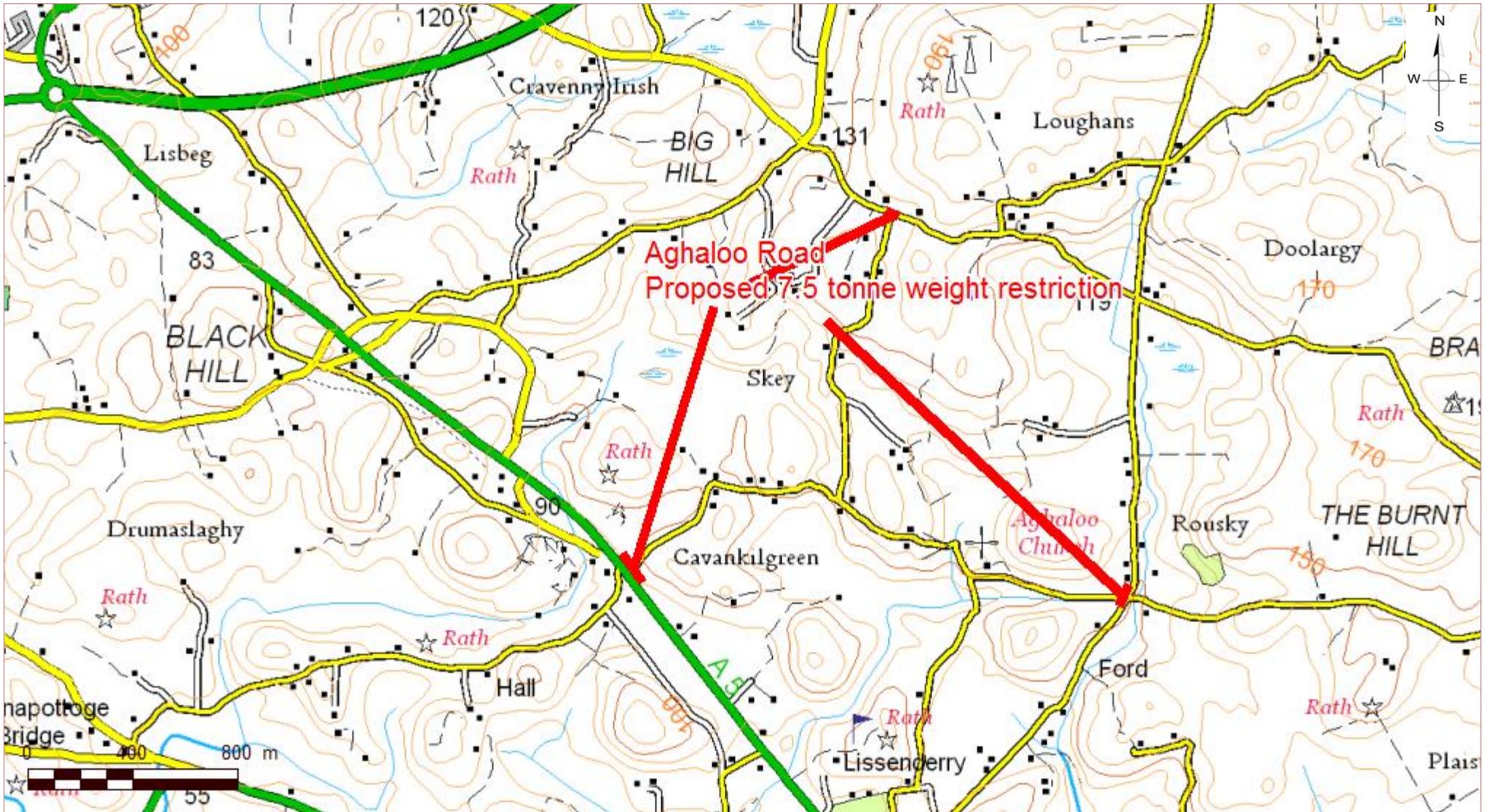
Please bring this matter to the attention of your council.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Hazel Burton
Network Development

Enc

Proposed 7.5 tonne weight restriction - Aghaloo Road, Ballygawley





Councillor Trevor Wilson
Chair
Mid Ulster District Council
Dungannon Office
Circular Road
Dungannon
BT71 6DT

19th October 2016

Re: Britain in Bloom 2016 Results

Dear Councillor Wilson

On behalf of the Northern Ireland Local Government Association, I would like to congratulate you on your council's wonderful successes in achieving a Gold Award and joint category winner in the "Village" category for Castlecaulfield, along with two special awards in the 2016 Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) Britain in Bloom awards.

Your council has already achieved many great successes in the Translink Ulster in Bloom competition and has gone on to further accomplish huge recognition in this year's RHS Britain in Bloom awards, the overall results of which were a significant achievement for Northern Ireland. I would like to express my sincere admiration to you and to the many volunteers and supporters in your area for all their hard work and dedication and I welcome this further recognition for your council's work.

I would encourage you to put this letter within the agenda of the Council or the most appropriate Standing Committee. Your council is a credit to Northern Ireland.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Derek McCallan', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Derek McCallan
Chief Executive, Northern Ireland Local Government Association

CC. Mr Anthony Tohill, Chief Executive, Mid Ulster District Council and Mr Terry Scullion, Head of Property Services, Mid Ulster District Council.

RECEIVED

21 OCT 2016

COUNCIL BUSINESS UNIT

Northern Ireland Local Government Association

Bradford Court, Upper Galwally, Castlereagh, BT8 6RB
tel: 028 9079 8972 email: office@nilga.org web: www.nilga.org twitter: @NI_LGA