

COOKSTOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of Proceedings of a DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING held in the Council Chamber on Tuesday 21st May 2013 at 7.00 pm

Present: Councillor Mayo (Chair)

Councillors: Clarke, Glasgow, Kelly, Lees, Mallaghan, McAleer, McCartney, McElhone, McFlynn, McGarvey, McNamee, Quinn and Wilson

Officers: Adrian McCreesh Chief Executive (Acting)
Maggie Bryson Community Services Manager
Emma Bell Administrative Officer

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were reported on behalf of Councillors McCrea and McIvor.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Wilson declared an interest in Item 4.1 'Community Services Annual Report' with regard to the RDP & Peace III Joint Council Committee and RDP Local Action Group and also Item 9.1 'New Suite of Local Economic Development Programmes.'

Councillors McGarvey and Wilson declared an interest in Item 4.3 'Good Relations.'

Councillors Clarke, McElhone, McFlynn, McGarvey, Mallaghan and Wilson declared an interest with regard to Item 4.4 'Good Relations Small Grants 2013 - 2014.'

Councillors McAleer, McElhone, McGarvey, McNamee and Mayo declared an interest in Item 4.5 'Community Festivals Fund 2013 -2014.'

Councillors McFlynn, McGarvey, McNamee and Mallaghan and the Chief Executive (Acting) declared an interest in Item 4.6 'Community Voluntary Body Grant Aid.'

Councillor McAleer declared an interest in Item 7 'Irish Central Border Area Network.'

3. PRESENTATION

3.1. Cookstown & Dungannon Citizens Advice Bureau

The Chief Executive (Acting) welcomed Ms Sharon Dillon, Manager of Cookstown and Dungannon Citizens Advice Bureau and Mr Paul Callaghan, Director of Policy, Regional Citizens Advice Bureau to the meeting.

Mr Callaghan provided Members with an update on the new Welfare Reforms and the approach which the Citizen's Advice Bureau (CAB) will be taking to facilitate these changes. He further outlined the main proposals with regard to each benefit and the effect which they are expected to have on claimants and how the CAB will be 'picking up the pieces.' Mr Callaghan advised that the cost to Cookstown's economy is anticipated to total £12 million per annum, which will impact on the whole community, particularly small businesses, Council revenues and retail workers. Mr Callaghan highlighted the necessity for claimants to have internet access and the barrier which this will create for claimants if they cannot access such. He outlined a potential solution which CAB has put forward, namely 'Trusted Intermediaries,' such as the CAB who can access a claimants account with their consent to work on the claimants behalf. He further highlighted the importance of organisations such as the CAB continuing to receive funding from Local Authorities to assist with planning for this change and implementing new systems to deal with the additional demand.

Councillor Mayo thanked Ms Dillon and Mr Callaghan for their presentation, after which they answered a number of questions from Members.

Councillor Wilson commended the work which Cookstown CAB carries out within the district and he emphasised the importance of organisations, such as the CAB continuing to receive funding. Councillor Mallaghan concurred with Councillor Wilson's comments.

Ms Dillon advised that Cookstown CAB has an excellent working relationship with Council Officers and she thanked Council for its continued financial support.

The Community Services Manager reminded Members to contact Ms Dillon or her team to obtain advice if required.

It was proposed by Councillor McGarvey
Seconded by Councillor Quinn and AGREED

That Council write to the Minister for Social Development, Mr Nelson McCausland, MLA emphasising the impact which the Welfare Reform is expected to have on advice services and also request an increase in Council's annual grant, so that additional

monies may be used to support organisations such as the CAB to deal with increased demand in the provision of advice services to claimants.

4. COMMUNITY SERVICES

4.1. Community Services Annual Report

The Chief Executive (Acting) highlighted that the Community Services Annual Report for the period April 2012- March 2013 is very comprehensive.

Councillor Wilson advised that the report illustrates how busy Community Services is and he congratulated the Community Services Manager and her team on their hard work and effort. Councillor McGarvey concurred with Councillor Wilson's comments and he added that it shows how many staff is actually involved in the delivery of services within Community Services.

It was proposed by Councillor Wilson
Seconded by Councillor McGarvey and AGREED

That Council ADOPT the Community Services Annual Report for the period April 2012 – March 2013.

4.2. Village Renewal

The Chief Executive (Acting) reminded Members that Council secured £273,938.08 funding from SWARD in February 2012, which required match funding of £150,000 shared over two years, which was subsequently agreed by Council at the Statutory Meeting on 4th February 2012.

It was proposed by Councillor McNamee
Seconded by Councillor Quinn and AGREED

That Council continues with its agreement to contribute £150,000 over two years to the Village Regeneration Scheme.

4.3. Good Relations

Members NOTED minutes of Good Relations Sub Committee Meetings held on 6th February 2013 and 13th March 2013.

4.4. Good Relations Small Grants 2013-2014

It was proposed by Councillor McNamee
Seconded by Councillor McGarvey and AGREED

That Council accept the recommendations outlined within the Good Relations Small Grants 2013 – 2014 report as outlined below, subject to Council receiving a Letter of Offer from the Community Relations Unit:

Organisation	Recommendation
Ardtree & Desertcreat Senior Citizens Group	£300.00
Ballybriest Pipe Band	£300.00
Ballytree Parent Support Group	£300.00
Broughderg Area Development Association LTD	£300.00
Cairdeas Eoghain	£300.00
Cloughfin Pipe Band	£300.00
Coagh & District Local History Group	£300.00
Cookstown and Dungannon Womens Aid	£300.00
Cookstown and Magherafelt Volunteer Centre	£300.00
Cookstown Local History Group	£300.00
Cookstown North Community Group	£300.00
Coyles Cottage Womens Group	£300.00
CRAFT	£300.00
Derryloran Boyne Defenders	£300.00
Derryloran Community Association	£300.00
Discovering Kids Playgroup	£300.00
Dunamore Community Ass	£300.00
FAST	£300.00
Friends of the Somme Mid Ulster Branch	£300.00
Gateway	£300.00
Gort Kids Afterschool Club	£300.00
Joseph Mary Plunkett Accordion Band	£0.00
Kildress KARE	£300.00
Kildress Wolfe Tones	£300.00
Loup Womens Group	£300.00
Magheraglass Womens Group	£300.00
Mid Ulster Canoe & Kayak Club	£300.00
Mid Ulster Child Contact Centre	£300.00

Moneymore Activity Group	£300.00
Moneymore Art Group	£300.00
Muintirevlin Historical Society	£155.00
Naíscóil Eoghain	£300.00
NI Ex-Firefighters MU Assoc.	£300.00
Parkview Community Group	£300.00
Phoenix Parents Council	£300.00
Pomeroy Afterschool Group	£300.00
Pomeroy Community Projects	£300.00
Pomeroy Players	£300.00
Pomeroy Pre-school Group	£300.00
Queen Elizabeth II Primary School Parent Teacher Association	£300.00
Rock and District Historical Society	£300.00
Rock Community Association	£300.00
Royal British Legion	£300.00
St. John's Junior Youth Club	£300.00
Stewartstown Amateur Dramatic Society	£300.00
Stewartstown Community Group	£300.00
Stewartstown Local History Group	£300.00
Superstars Club	£300.00
The Hub BT80	£300.00
The Monday Club	£300.00
Tobin Youth Centre Moortown Ltd	£300.00
	£14,855.00

4.5. Community Festival Fund 2013-2014

It was proposed by Councillor Clarke
 Seconded by Councillor Wilson and AGREED

That Council accept the recommendations outlined within the Community Festival Fund 2013 -2014 report, as outlined below:

Group	Amount Awarded (£)
Pomeroy Players	2,805
Ardboe O'Donovan Rossa	1,500
Ballyronan & District Cultural Group	1,500
TABBDA	1,500
Ballinderry Parish Church Vintage Rally	1,500
Lissan Men's Parish Group	1,500
Tullylagan Vintage Owner's Ass	1,500
Friends and Parents of Cookstown PS	995
AOH	1,500
St Michaels GAC	700
Ballybriest Pipe Band	700
Ardboe Credit Union	700
Lough Neagh Rescue	700
Pomeroy Plunketts GAC	700
Kildress Wolfe Tones GAA	Referred to Arts & Cultural Grant Aid Scheme
Henry Joy McCracken, Moneymore	700
Tamlaghtmore Silver Band	350
Take A Bow Archery Club	350
Ancre Somme Association	0
	£19,200

4.6. Community Voluntary Body Grant Aid

It was proposed by Councillor Glasgow
Seconded by Councillor McElhone and AGREED

That Council accept the recommendations outlined within the Community Voluntary Body Grant Aid 2013 – 2014 Report, as outlined below:

Organisation	Recommendation (£)
Cookstown and District Motorcycle Club/ Cookstown 100	6000
Gaelic Project	6500
Tyrone Milk Cup Association	1000
Shelley Bolton	150
Sara Campbell	150
Kirstie McCammon	150
Jacqueline O'Neill	150
Kayleigh O'Neill	150
Ancre Somme Association ~ Tyrone	260
Ardrea & Desertcreat Senior Citizens Group	260
Cookstown & Dungannon Women's Aid	260
Cookstown & Magherafelt Volunteer Centre	260
Dunamore Community Association	260
East Tyrone Cycling Club	260
Insight	260
Kildress Kare	260
First Cookstown Scout Group	260
LILAC	260
Lissan Badminton Club	260
Loup Women's Group	260
Magheraglass Women's Group	260
Mid Ulster District Scouts	260
Mid Ulster Talking Newspaper	260
Mid Ulster Vintage Vehicles Club Ltd	260
Moneymore WI	260
Ochill Cultural Group	260
Open Door	260
Pomeroy Afterschool	260
Pomeroy PreSchool Playgroup	260

Shopmobility Cookstown	260
Sperrin Harriers	260
St Michaels GAC	260
Superstars	260
The Monday Club	260
The Tuesday Club	260
Tullylagan Pony Club	260
	£7,280

5. IMPROVEMENT COLLABORATION EFFICIENCY (ICE)

The Chief Executive (Acting) provided Members with an update with regard to the ICE Programme and he advised that funding has now been allocated from the Minister for Social Development, Mr Nelson McCausland, MLA. The programme focuses on efficiencies and is designed to assist Councils to prepare joint contracts and policies for the provision of IT and procurement etc, which will enable to a smoother transition with regard to the Review of Public Administration (RPA).

Members NOTED the Improvement, Collaboration & Efficiency (ICE) Bulletin highlighting key issues and discussion points as raised at the Regional Governance Group Meeting on 20th March 2013.

6. LOUGH NEAGH PARTNERSHIP

The Chief Executive (Acting) advised that a request has been received from Lough Neagh Partnership seeking £5,000 of funding for the financial year 2013 – 2014, which includes a contribution to the maintenance of the Lough Neagh Cycle Trail.

It was proposed by Councillor McAleer
Seconded by Councillor McFlynn and AGREED

That Council makes its annual contribution to Lough Neagh Partnership of up to £5,000 for the financial period 2013 – 2014, to be paid in two instalments, subject to confirmation of the organisation's economic viability and receipt of the relevant monitoring documentation.

Members NOTED receipt of letter, dated 10 October 2012, from Mr Charlie Monaghan, Manager, Lough Neagh Partnership and also a copy of their Proposed Activity Programme for 2013 – 2014.

7. IRISH CENTRAL BORDER AREA NETWORK (ICBAN)

The Chief Executive (Acting) advised that a request has been received from ICBAN seeking a reduced contribution of £10,000 for the financial year 2013 - 2014. He further highlighted the importance of Council maintaining their membership with ICBAN especially with regard to Cross Border Co-operation.

It was proposed by Councillor McGarvey
Seconded by Councillor Mallaghan and AGREED

That Council makes its annual contribution to ICBAN at the reduced rate of up to £10,000 for the financial period 2013 – 2014, to be paid in two instalments, subject to verification of the organisation's economic viability and the receipt of the relevant monitoring documentation.

8. DUNGANNON AND COOKSTOWN BUSINESS EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP

The Chief Executive (Acting) reminded Members of the background to the Dungannon and Cookstown Business Education Partnership and advised that Council has received a request seeking £2,500 shortfall funding for the financial year April 2013 – March 2014. He highlighted that Dungannon & South Tyrone Borough Council have been asked to contribute £7,500 of shortfall funding for the same financial period.

Councillor Quinn highlighted that he has witnessed first-hand, through his role as Council Chairman, the excellent work which Dungannon and Cookstown Business Education Partnership are carrying out and he highlighted the importance of them continuing to deliver such programmes.

It was proposed by Councillor Quinn
Seconded by Councillor Wilson and AGREED

That Council contribute up to £2,500 to Dungannon and Cookstown Business Education Partnership for the financial period April 2013 – March 2014, to be paid in two instalments, subject to verification of the organisation's economic viability, confirmation of match funding from Dungannon and South Tyrone Borough Council and the Department for Employment and Learning (DEL), and receipt of the relevant monitoring documentation.

9. LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

9.1. NEW SUITE OF LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES

Members NOTED update report, dated 21st May 2013, on Council's new Suite of Local Economic Development Programmes.

9.2. PROPOSAL FOR NEW 'APP' TO PROMOTE INVESTMENT IN THE DISTRICT

The Chief Executive (Acting) advised that Invest NI has developed a new Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) App which can be used on all mobile platforms, to assist with promoting NI to inward investors. He further advised that Invest NI has been working with Lisburn City Council to develop a Pilot App to showcase Lisburn City's "sales proposition" which sets out the key reasons for choosing Lisburn as an investment location.

It was proposed by Councillor McNamee
Seconded by Councillor McAleer and AGREED

That Council adopt the recommendations outlined in the Economic Development Manager's Report entitled 'Proposal to Develop a New Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) App for Cookstown in Conjunction with Invest NI', dated 21st May 2013, and to develop an App for the Cookstown District at a cost to Council of up to £5,000 which can be resourced from Council's Economic Development Budget. It was further AGREED to submit a proposal to Invest NI to access the remaining 75% funding of £15,000.

10. INCLUSIVE ACCESS & SHOPPING ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

The Chief Executive (Acting) provided Members with background to the 'Inclusive Access & Shopping Entertainment Guide.'

It was proposed by Councillor McGarvey
Seconded by Councillor McNamee and AGREED

That Council adopt the recommendations made by Council's Equality and Diversity Manager within the 'Inclusive Access & Shopping Entertainment Guide' Report, dated 14th May 2013, and provide a financial contribution of £1,000 towards the project, subject to funding being secured from Awards for All.

11. BURNAVON

11.1. Civic Awards Sub Committee

Members NOTED Minutes of Civic Awards Sub Committee Meeting held on 18th April 2013.

11.2. Arts & Cultural Sub Committee

Members NOTED Minutes of Arts & Cultural Sub Committee Meeting held on 27th February 2013.

12. TOURISM

12.1. Tourism Sub Committee

The Chief Executive (Acting) advised that Tourism Sub Committee Meeting on 25th April 2013 Members were informed that £4 million of funding has been made available by the Department for Agriculture and Rural Development (DARD) for 2013 – 2014 and also 2014 – 2015 year to be used for the development of forests for recreational use. The funding will be opened in September 2013 therefore it is necessary for Council to employ consultants to carry out an Options Appraisal for Drum Manor, Pomeroy, Davagh and Drumcairne Forest which will enable Council to prepare a business plan ready for submission.

Councillor McFlynn enquired if signage indicating the route to Trail One, which is suitable for both walkers and mountain bikes, is well sign posted. The Chief Executive (Acting) advised that he liaise with the Leisure Centre Manager and advise Members accordingly at a future Council Meeting. He further welcomed all feedback from Members with regard to the trails at Davagh Forest.

Members NOTED Minutes of Tourism Sub Committee Meetings held on 15th February 2013 and 25th April 2013.

13. TOWN CENTRE REGENERATION

13.1. Cookstown Revitalisation Scheme

Members NOTED update report, dated 7th May 2013, with regard to Cookstown Revitalisation Projects.

13.2. Cookstown Shop Improvement Scheme

Members NOTED an update report, dated 7th May 2013, with regard to Phases 1, 2 and 3 of Cookstown Shop Improvement Scheme.

14. COOKSTOWN TOWN TWINNING COMMITTEE

Members NOTED minutes of Cookstown Town Twinning Committee Meetings held on 8th October 2012 and 4th December 2012.

15. RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

15.1. South West Local Action Group

Members NOTED minutes of South West Local Action Group Meetings held on 6th March 2013 and 3rd April 2013.

15.2. Rural Development Programme Joint Council Committee

Members NOTED minutes of Rural Development Programme Joint Council Committee Meeting held on 11th March 2013.

16. SUBSCRIPTIONS

16.1. Journal of Town & City Management

It was proposed by Councillor Quinn
Seconded by Councillor McElhone and AGREED

That Council subscribe to Journal of Town & City Management, for four quarterly 100 page issues (including special issues) at a cost of £215 +VAT.

17. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

17.1. Chairman's Chain

Councillor McNamee advised that the Chairman's Chain needs to be updated. The Chief Executive (Acting) advised that he would arrange for this to be carried out.

Meeting ended at 8.13pm.

Chairman

Clerk/Chief Executive (Acting)

Date